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ATA Reports on Turkish-Bulgarian Relations

AU0207124889 Tirana ATA in English
0825 GMT 2 Jul 89

["On the Aggravation of the Turkish-Bulgarian Relations"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, July 2 (ATA)—The news agencies report that a great number of Bulgarian citizens from the Turkish minority in Bulgaria have left for Turkey, where as it is reported about 80,000 people have arrived in Turkey, and within this week their number will mount to 100,000 people.

In a statement made recently the Deputy Minister for foreign affairs of Bulgaria, Ivan Ganev, said that about 250,000 people have requested to leave Bulgaria. According to him, during the manifestations that have taken place in many Bulgarian cities from Bulgarian Moslems, some time ago, there have occurred 7 casualties and 28 others injured, whereas Turkish official sources speak of about 30 casualties.

This problem has not yet been solved between the interested countries, Bulgaria and Turkey. In a recent press conference, the Premier of the Republic of Turkey, Turgut Ozal, called for talks to be conducted between these two countries to solve the problems and reach an agreement regarding emigration.

In an interview broadcast by the Bulgarian news agency, BTA, the Bulgarian Premier, Georgi Atanasov pointed out among others that "The tensions between groups of our population have not calmed down yet" and that "Bulgaria wishes to conduct talks in a constructive spirit with Turkey, due to the fact that it is convinced that the present and future of both countries depends on the normal good-neighbourly relations between them."

The solution of this issue through negotiations responds to the interests of both neighbouring countries and the strengthening of peace and cooperation in the Balkans.

Vietnamese Official Greets Democratic Front

AU0207125189 Tirana ATA in English
0815 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Excerpt] Tirana, July 2 (ATA)—The 6th Congress of the Democratic Front of Albania has received telegrams and greetings from different countries, from many friendship organizations, associations and friends of our country.

The message sent by the chairman of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the National Front of Vietnam, Nguyen Huu Tho says: "In the name of the Central Committee of the National Front of Vietnam and in my own name, I convey to you and through you to all the delegates to the congress the warmest greetings.

"We wish the 6th Congress of the Democratic Front of Albania successes.

"Under the leadership of the Party of Labor of Albania, the Democratic Front of Albania has united all the people in the struggle for national independence and the construction of socialist Albania.

"The Democratic Front of Albania has made its important contribution to the consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Vietnam and Albania.

"We wish the Albanian people greater successes in the construction of the country and in the common struggle of the peoples of the world for peace, national independence and social progress.

"We wish that the friendship between the Vietnamese people and the Albanian one develop ever more." [passage omitted]

Leaders' Public Appearances for 24-30 June

AU3006165889

[Editorial Report] Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian in its broadcasts between 24-30 June reports the following public appearances of Albanian leaders (date and time of report given in parentheses):

Ramiz Alia, Albanian Workers Party [AWP] Central Committee first secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly; Adil Carcani, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania; Muho Asllani, Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Cami, Hajredin Celiku, Lenka Cuko, Hekuran Isai, Rita Marko, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Manush Myftiu, Simon Stefani, AWP Central Committee Politburo members; Vangjel Cerrava, Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, and Qirjako Mihali, attended the opening session of the Sixth Congress of the Albanian Democratic Front on 26 June. (1800 GMT 26 Jun) Ramiz Alia and "other party and state leaders" attended the concluding session of the Congress on 28 June. (1800 GMT 28 June) Ramiz Alia and "other party and state leaders" also attended a dinner in the village of Peze, Tirana District, given in honor of the delegates to the Congress on 28 June. (2000 GMT 28 Jun)

Hajredin Celiku and Pirro Kondi attended the inauguration of a wartime museum in Tirana on 29 June. (1800 GMT 29 Jun)

Pirro Kondi and Llambi Gegprifti welcomed delegates to the Sixth Congress of the Albanian Democratic Front arriving in Tirana on 25 June. (1800 GMT 25 Jun)

Vangjel Cerrava attended the commemoration of a wartime partisan unit in Zvarisht, Korce district, on 25 June. (1800 GMT 25 Jun)

Manush Myftiu, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received an Iraqi Foreign Ministry delegation on 24 June. (1800 GMT 24 Jun)

Reis Malile, minister of foreign affairs, received an Iraqi Foreign Ministry delegation on 23 June. (2000 GMT 23 Jun)

GDR's Stoph Concludes Visit, Returns Home

Received by Zhivkov 30 Jun

AU3006141989 Sofia BTA in English 1346 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Sofia, June 30 (BTA)—Mr Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Central Committee of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] and president of the State Council received today Mr Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the G.D.R., who is on an official friendly visit to this country.

They discussed important aspects of bilateral relations and a number of international issues.

As friendly allied countries, closely related by the common views on the future of socialism and as active participants in the Warsaw Treaty and the C.M.E.A., Bulgaria and the G.D.R. cooperate successfully in all spheres of socialist construction.

It was said that bilateral relations are showing a stable and dynamic development under the leadership of the BCP and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany in the spirit of the top level agreements.

They pointed out the special significance of the further development of cooperation in the economic and the techno-scientifical spheres.

Today the two countries rely on the principles of socialism and the achievements of human civilization and realize the challenges of the present day and the imperatives of the techno-scientifical revolution and are working actively to adapt successfully to the dynamically changing political and economic situation in the world.

Bulgaria and the G.D.R feel the need of agreed economic actions. Active work is being done at the moment related to the coordination of the national economic plans for the period 1991-1995. Specialization and cooperation in production render stability to the economic contacts.

During the discussions of topical issues of the international situation the two countries stressed the need to establish the new political thinking and confirmed their adherence to the process of strengthening of peace and security, to disarmament, dialogue and cooperation in Europe, in the Balkans and in the world. In that relation special accent was placed on the importance of the Helsinki process and its generally adopted principles which should be strictly observed by all countries, participants in the C.S.C.E.

Mr Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers participated in the talks, which passed in a friendly atmosphere.

ADN on Stoph-Zhivkov Meeting

LD3006174389 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1332 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Sofia (ADN)—Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, and Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, met for a friendly talk on Friday [30 June] and expressed their great satisfaction about the successful multifarious development of bilateral relations.

They praised the official friendly visit by the GDR premier and the talks with his Bulgarian counterpart as a good contribution to further deepening fruitful cooperation between the two states. Stoph and Zhivkov agreed that the close and trusting cooperation between the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the BCP gives decisive impetus to developing relations between the two states. They directed their attention to the even more effective use of existing comprehensive treaties, particularly in the economic and scientific-technological spheres, for the benefit of both states and their citizens.

Todor Zhivkov informed his guest about the changes being brought about in the economy and the political system of Bulgaria. In so doing he referred to the country's efforts to strengthen socialism broadly and to shape it more and more attractively.

Both sides stressed the inextricable link between strengthening socialism and securing peace in the world. They reaffirmed the GDR and Bulgaria's determination to shape even more effectively cooperation on joint peace initiatives by the Warsaw Pact states and to continue to make an active contribution of their own to implementing the foreign policy that has been agreed on.

Stoph and Zhivkov both paid tribute to the general improvement in the international climate achieved through the peace initiatives of the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union and all forces for peace, and underlined the need to increase efforts even more to push the disarmament process further. They came out in favor of an early start to negotiations on tactical nuclear weapons and condemned all plans for modernizing this kind of weapon. The aim must be to liberate Europe entirely from nuclear weapons.

Prior to this, the GDR head of government had official talks with his counterpart Georgi Atanasov. Both sides devoted particular attention to cooperation in the economic and scientific-technological sectors, which are developing stably and dynamically. The program for extending and deepening cooperation in both spheres up to the year 2000 which was signed at the highest level in 1987 laid the basic guidelines for further developing and deepening economic relations. Intensive work is going on in the specific implementation of the program, as the prime ministers confirmed.

Speaking about the international political situation, they stressed that progress and positive developments are clearly recognizable in Europe and worldwide. In view of the contradictory nature of these tendencies, however, the joint efforts of all men of goodwill are needed to permit no pause in the disarmament process. In this spirit, the CSCE process has to be deepened. Both official stressed the need for constructive and comprehensive cooperation between democratic forces, particularly in Europe, to counter increasing neo-fascist tendencies.

Stoph reaffirmed the GDR's active commitment to implement the policy of peace, detente, and disarmament, especially in Europe. Above all he stressed the GDR's interest in liquidating tactical nuclear weapons and energetically rejected attempts to undermine existing agreements on modernizing them and to stoke up the arms race once again. Atanasov particularly stressed Bulgaria's efforts to create a climate of trust in the Balkans.

Both premiers agreed that further results in the struggle for improving the international situation depend to a great extent on the unity, strength, and influence of the socialist states united in the Warsaw Pact and CEMA. They reaffirmed once again their desire to do all they can to improve cooperation within the alliance in line with the requirements of the present stage in the development of socialism.

After the conclusion of the talks, Willi Stoph ended his official friendly visit and began the journey home.

Final Talks Held, Protocol Signed

AU3006200589 Sofia BTA in English
1657 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Sofia, June 30 (BTA)—Mr Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria and Mr Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the G.D.R. had today official talks during which they signed a protocol.

In their final round they assessed the results achieved as fruitful and opening broad opportunities for the further expansion of bilateral relations.

Mr Georgi Atanasov and Mr Willi Stoph stressed that relations between Bulgaria and the G.D.R. are developing dynamically. A solid base for their advance are the friendship, the international solidarity, the identity of views on principal issues of socialist construction and of international policy.

After lending special attention to the state and prospects of economic and techno-scientific cooperation, the leaders of the two countries' governments expressed satisfaction with its positive development. They outlined the basic trends and concrete new forms which should underlie in the coordination of the economic development plans. The need was stressed to deepen cooperation in the research, development and production activity, particularly in the sphere of key technologies. There are possibilities to expand relations in the sphere of heavy machine building, the chemical and biotechnological industry, agriculture, the foodstuffs industry and electronics.

The direct relations established between 200 combine works, companies, self-managing economic organizations and research teams of Bulgaria and the G.D.R. were pointed out as efficient type of cooperation. The task was set up for an ever greater use of direct relations for the specialization and cooperation in the research and production, as well as for the expansion of mutual supplies.

Mr Georgi Atanasov and Mr Willi Stoph spoke in favour of the increase of cooperation efficiency and the further development of direct relations in the sphere of culture, science and education,

In a joint announcement given for publication, the decisiveness is stressed of Bulgaria and the G.D.R. to contribute to the restructuring in the C.M.E.A. activity in view of deepening of the integration processes, of international division of labour, specialization and cooperation in production between the C.M.E.A. Member countries in compliance with the new requirements.

In the exchange of opinions on the international situation Mr Georgi Atanasov and Mr Willi Stoph stated with satisfaction that the results of the constructive foreign policy of the U.S.S.R. and the other socialist countries, of the constructive efforts of the realistically thinking circles in the West, a number of positive trends are making their way in the development of international

Bulgaria and the G.D.R. are declaring themselves for the continuation of the process of disarmament through a 50 per cent cut of the strategic offensive weapons at strict observance for an agreed period of time, of the A.B.M. Treaty as signed in 1972, for a total ban of the nuclear weapons tests and the earliest possible conclusion of a convention for chemical weapons ban and elimination, for cuts in the armed forces and the conventional weapons in Europe and the inclusion of the naval forces in the disarmament negotiations. They expressed full support to the soviet union latest initiative for a moratorium on the nuclear tests.

The two sides consider the recent proposals of the U.S. President George Bush for cuts in the conventional armed forces in Europe as a step forward in the right direction.

Mr Georgi Atanasov and Mr Willi Stoph hailed the Soviet Union resolution for a unilateral withdrawal in 1989 from the territory of the allied countries of 500 warheads and tactical nuclear weapons, as well as its readiness to withdraw from its allies' territories all nuclear weapons in 1989-1991 as long as the U.S. follow suit.

Considering the results of the Vienna meeting the two countries spoke in favor of further development of the Helsinki process, the development of large scale mutually beneficial cooperation, the establishment of a new climate in international relations, the construction of a "common European home." A conviction was expressed that the indissolubility of the existing post-war territories and political realities and the non-interference in the countries' internal affairs are a major prerequisite for ensuring the lasting peace and development of bilateral and multilateral relations in the European continent. The need was stressed of a large scale and constructive cooperation between democratic forces, particularly in Europe, for opposing the frequent attempts of expression of neo-fascism, the announcement says.

Mr Georgi Atanasov accepted the invitation of Mr Willi Stoph to pay a visit to the GDR.

[Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1730 GMT on 30 Jun 89 in a similar report adds: "Willi Stoph departed from Bulgaria tonight, seen off at Sofia Airport by Georgi Atanasov and other officials."]

Mladenov Ends Official Visit to Bonn, Departs

Leaders Discuss Turkish Issue

LD2806161789 Hamburg DPA in German 1524 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher today received his Bulgarian counterpart, Petur Mladenov, for an hour-long talk in Bonn. According to Foreign Ministry spokesman Juergen Chrobog, there was discussion of East-West relations, the development of the CSCE process, and German-Bulgarian relations.

Genscher also expressed the Federal Government's concern at the predicament of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. According to Chrobog, there was a "frank exchange of opinions" on this subject. The Bulgarian Government denied that members of the Turkish minority have been deported to Turkey en masse. The Bulgarian version is that the people left the country on their own free will after having obtained passports.

Mladenov, in office since 1971 and thus the longest-serving foreign minister in Europe, will also meet Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker and representatives of the Bundestag party groups during his 3-day visit to Bonn.

Denies Turkish Accusations

LD2906134989 Hamburg DPA in German 1222 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Bonn (DPA)—The government in Sofia intends to invite deputies from the German Bundestag and German journalists to Bulgaria so they can see for themselves the situation of the Turkish minority. Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov said this during talks with Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in Bonn, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated today.

With this Mladenov was taking up an idea from Genscher, who had expressed the anxiety of the Federal Government at the situation of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. Sofia is denying accusations, above all from Turkey, that tens of thousands of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria are being driven out of the country. The Bulgarian official invited Genscher for a return visit, the date of which is still to be set.

The SPD Bundestag Deputies Gernot Ertler and Peter Wuertz also do not have the impression that there is mass deportation from Bulgaria. After their return from a visit to the Turkish-Bulgarian border area, they stated that the mass exodus is taking place voluntarily. [passage omitted]

Meets With Lambsdorff

LD2906111189 Hamburg DPA in German 1020 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov met in Bonn today with Free Democratic Party [FDP] leader Count Otto Lambsdorff. The focus of the hour-long exchange of opinion was, according to FDP Spokesman Hans-Rolf Goebel, the Bulgarian path towards open economics and to cautious political reforms.

Lambsdorff referred to the fact that the Federal Republic is following with very critical attentiveness the treatment of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. Mladenov also invited Lambsdorff to visit Bulgaria on behalf of Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of State.

Yesterday Mladenov spoke to Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who also expressed anxiety about the situation of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. A meeting with Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker is also on the Bulgarian official's program.

Mladenov Ends Bonn Visit

AU3006195889 Sofia BTA in English 1818 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Bonn, June 30 (BTA special correspondent and BTA correspondent)—Mr Peter Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, completed his official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, which he paid at the invitation of Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, federal vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs of the F.R.G.

In the morning Mr Peter Mladenov conferred with Mr Horst Teltschik, foreign affairs adviser to Dr Helmut Kohl, federal chancellor and leader of the Christian Democratic Union. In a businesslike, friendly and candid conversation they considered a wide range of bilateral concerns and more specifically the prospects for the promotion of political dialogue and international cooperation.

The three-day visit had a tight schedule of political talks the idea of which was to identify fresh opportunities for wider bilateral cooperation. The Bulgarian guest was received by Dr Richard Von Weizsaecker, Federal President of the FRG. During that meeting, as well as during the two sessions of talks with Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher. an emphasis was laid on the summit political dialogue and a survey was made of the common understanding to diversify the interaction.

The visit contributed to the strengthening of the achievements in bilateral relations and gave both countries an occasion to stress their desire for wider cooperation in all spheres. Bulgaria and the Federal Republic of Germany will persevere in playing an active role for the improvement of the political climate in Europe and the world and to contribute to the promotion of international relations in the spirit of new political thinking.

[Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1730 GMT on 30 June in a similar report adds: "Comrade Mladenov returned to Sofia tonight."]

FRG Paper Interviews Mladenov on Talks in Bonn

AU0207171489 Sofia BTA in English
1654 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Text] Sofia, July 2 (BTA)—The RABOTNICHESKO DELO correspondent to Bonn reports that GENERAL ANZEIGER yesterday ran an interview with Mr Petur Mladenov, foreign affairs minister of Bulgaria who paid an official visit to the FRG.

The interview begins with an assessment of the talks between the leaders of Bulgarian and FRG diplomacy. Mr Petur Mladenov pointed out that they were a result of the realistic spirit which is dominating ever more in the policy of the countries from the East and the West and are connected with the general desire to reach wise compromises which would serve the interests not only of the peoples of Bulgaria and the FRG.

Further on the Bulgarian foreign minister answered several questions connected to the development of Bulgaro-Turkish relations. He emphasized that there should first of all be clarity regarding the national belonging of the Muslims living in our country. According to Turkish propaganda, saturated with the ideas of pan-Turkism one comes to such absurd allegations of the kind that the 150 million Muslims living in the region from Berlin to China are Turks, it is emphasized in the interview.

"Regrettably, this propaganda makes a lot of people leave their native places. Thus, a lot of problems arise for our country, but these problems are even more serious for Turkey, as those people had in Bulgaria stable work, normal dwellings, free medical aid and education, things which they will have to do without now," Mr Petur Mladenov said.

There is information, the interview reads that the Bulgarian Muslims are to be settled in Kurdistan and in some regions of Cyprus, which historically belong to the Cypriot Greeks. This is a provocation which concerns the whole of the world.

Asked about the way in which these problems can be settled the Bulgarian foreign minister was firm: through negotiations but, of course there should be no preliminary conditions.

FRG Journalist on Conditions in Turkish Camps

AU0107171089 Sofia BTA in English
1606 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Kapitan Andreevo (at the Bulgaro-Turkish border), July 1 (BTA)—At the Kapitan Andreevo border check point almost every day one can meet special correspondents of the foreign mass media who have come to become acquainted with the conditions under which Bulgarian citizens travel to Turkey. Without any restrictions they speak with the passengers and with representatives of the border services, visit populated areas in the region of Khaskovo and in other regions. They usually cross the two sides of the border and are able to juxtapose facts and observations, to see things as they actually are.

One of them is the special reporter of the STERN magazine Mihali Moldavai, who came this morning from Turkey, and more precisely from the area where the border camp with Bulgarian Muslims is situated.

The picture in these camps is a depressing one, he said. People are waiting for whole weeks in a row without knowing what tomorrow will bring for them. Many of them are seized by a complete apathy. The Turkish authorities immediately begin their manipulation Children are forced to kiss the Turkish flag, to study by heart texts about the greatness of Turkey. Many of the campers are used as instruments of Turkish propaganda. Some, for instance, speak that the Bulgarian Muslims are forcibly expelled from the country, the STERN reporter went on to say, that their luggage is taken, in a word, that all kinds of difficulties have been created.

"I was already on your territory a few days ago, I am here now and I can say firmly that all these allegations are a lie. People are transporting freely their luggage to the other side of the border and it often consists of huge piles. There is nothing indicating that outrage has been committed over them. On the contrary, everything possible is being done to make things easier."

The STERN reporter had heard allegations from the Turkish side that the Bulgarians are destroying the mosques. This is also a lie, the journalist from the FRG said. He visited some settlements of the Islamized population and saw that the mosques are standing there unscratched.

Border Talks With Greek Military Delegation

AU3006183589 Sofia BTA in English
1815 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Sofia, June 30 (BTA)—In keeping with the agreement between the Governments of Bulgaria and of Greece on the prevention and settlement of border incidents and violations of the two countries' common frontier, a Greek military delegation led by Brigadier General Nikolaos Marangakis, chief of staff of the 3rd Army Corps based in Salonika, paid a visit here between June 26 and June 30. The guests held talks with Lieutenant General Lyuben Petrov, chief of the Sofia Garrison, with Colonel General Minko Minkov, deputy minister of internal affairs.

Medical Units at Border Checkpoint Viewed

AU3006184689 Sofia BTA in English
1721 GMT 30 Jun 89

["Health Care For Travellers"—BTA Headline]

[Text] Kapitan Andreevo on the Bulgaro-Turkish border, June 30 (BTA correspondent)—The health-care and sanitary station at the Kapitan Andreevo border check point has been reinforced by teams of doctors and paramedics from the regional hospital in Svilengrad. The post is open round the clock. The head of the station Dr Dimitur Syulemenchev said that the teams have been provided with everything necessary for emergency medical aid: medicines, technical facilities and ambulances. Specialists can also be approached for emergency consultations.

An electrocardiograph is also available, as there are heart patients among the travellers, and the fatigue and the long wait inevitably take their toll.

No case of infectious disease has been registered so far. But then, there is no reason for this, as the area around the border crossing is cleaned on a regular basis and two times a week it is washed and disinfected.

Vietnamese Military Delegation Continues Visit

Attends Ceremony in Varna

AU3006165989 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA
in Bulgarian 29 Jun 89 p 1

[Captain Ivan Genov report: "Hospitality and Businesslike Atmosphere"]

[Text] The 3d day of the official visit paid by Army General Le Duc Anh, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and SRV minister of national defense, and the military delegation accompanying him, visited Varna, our Black Sea capital. A festive ceremony took place at the airport during which the Vietnamese guests were welcomed by Admiral Vasil Yanakiev, commander in chief of the Bulgarian Navy, by Petko Danev, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Municipal Committee, and by Bogdan Karadenchev, chairman of the Varna City Municipal People's Council Executive Committee, by officers from the Navy, and other officials.

The delegation was accompanied by Admiral Ivan Dobrev, deputy minister of national defense, and by Nguyen Tien Thong, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV in Bulgaria, as well as by Din Chong Lok [name as transliterated], military, naval, and airforce attache of the SRV Embassy in Sofia.

Army General Le Duc Anh and the Vietnamese military leaders inspected with great interest the organization of training and educational activities at the N.Y. Vaptsarov Higher Naval School, they visited the lecture rooms and laboratories equipped with the most updated electronic and audiovisual equipment. Rear Admiral Rumen Popov, head of the school, described the great traditions of this most ancient technical educational institution in our country and mapped out the basic trends of the training-educational programs which have been introduced in this school.

The Vietnamese delegation expressed sincere gratitude for the assistance accorded by Bulgarian sailors to Vietnam over the years of anti-imperialist resistance and for the excellent training of commanding cadres for the SRV naval forces at the N.Y. Vaptsarov Higher Naval School. Admiral Giap Van Cuong, commander of the SRV Naval Forces, told about the heroic exploits of a Vietnamese naval officer, trained at the Bulgarian naval school, in defending the country's state border.

Later on, the Vietnamese military delegation inspected the beautiful Black Sea "Golden Sands" resort where a luncheon was given in honor of the delegation by the Varna party, state, and military leadership.

The delegation returned to Sofia the same evening. The visit continues.

VNA on Army Delegation's Visit

BK0107161289 Hanoi VNA in English
1515 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi (VNA) July 1—The high-level military delegation led by Gen Le Duc Anh, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of defence, left Sofia on June 29 concluding its 4-day visit to Bulgaria.

The delegation was received on June 29 by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and president of the State Council. The same day, the Vietnamese delegation and a host delegation signed a memo of their discussions during the delegation's visit to Bulgaria. On June 26 the delegation was feted by Gen Dobri Dzhurov, Bulgaria's minister of national defence. The Bulgarian defence minister said that the fraternal friendship, unbreakable militant solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the parties, governments and armies of Vietnam and Bulgaria cultivated by Georgi Dimitrov and President Ho Chi Minh have stood the test of time and are constantly consolidating and developing.

He expressed the belief that the Vietnam-Bulgaria friendship would further develop qualitatively in comformity with the policies of reform and renovation set forth by the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the 13th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

For his part, Gen Le Duc Anh thanked the people and Army of Bulgaria for their consistent, heartfelt and valuable support and assistance to Vietnam especially in the search for an early political solution to the Cambodian issue.

He laid stress on the importance of the close ties and comprehensive cooperation of Vietnam with Bulgaria, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. He voiced Vietnam's full support-for Bulgaria's peace initiative aimed at turning the Balkans into a zone of friendship and cooperation free from nuclear and chemical wearpons.

The Vietnamese delegation also called at some military units and two Army institutions.

Zhivkov Meets International Foundation Delegates

AU3006202589 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Comrade Todor Zhivkov met the delegates to the session of the International Foundation for Mankind's Survival and Development, which is hosted by our country, at the Boyana Residence tonight.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov welcomed the guests on behalf of the state leadership and stressed that the subject of the survival and development of the human race is a basic issue of our century.

It is satisfactory for all of us, he pointed out, that we are contemporaries of scientists and politicians, of religious leaders, and educators, of representatives of all races and continents, who have become aware of the fact that scientific-revolution may also have fatal results and who have understood, the seeds of destruction in our attitude to nature, to the possibilities of man, of man's creative power.

Your foundation is a result of this process, Comrade Todor Zhivkov stated. As a people who have survived both the glory and the tragedies of the historical process, they welcomed the establishment of this organization.

Dwelling on the global problems of mankind, on the military, ecological, and social-demographic processes, the chairman of the State Council pointed out that the most important achievement of today's world is the awareness of the peoples and governments, of the intelligentsia, and of millions of working people.

This, along with everything else represents a realization of the unity of our world which means our joint responsibility toward the world, our joint efforts to create a new world.

In this connection Comrade Todor Zhivkov pointed out that the global problems of the contemporary world influence and will influence the moral and esthetical dimensions of mankind, our humanitarianism and tolerance, our feelings and ideals.

Nevertheless, we must consider the lessons of history, we must take into account the crude reality, the fact, that the contemporary world with its contradictions and collusions, with its unresolved problems contains a real danger of self-destruction.

Therefore it is necessary to go further today, Comrade Todor Zhivkov stresses. We should eliminate everything likely to lead us to destruction, we must search for methods for a genuine solution of problem, to which the politicians who have conceived the new political thinking are really contributing.

Today's world is unthinkable without the mutual dependence and mutual link between countries peoples which requires new thinking, new values, and new values, Comrade Todor Zhivkov pointed out.

In closing his statement, Comrade Todor Zhivkov assured the guests that our country, within its power, is supporting the processes of renewal and is working for a useful cooperation among people.

Academician Yevgeniy Velkhov, chairman of the foundation, briefed Comrade Todor Zhivkov on the basic trends in the activities of the foundation, and on the debates conducted in Sofia.

The chairman of the State Council was also informed on the work of the individual committees of the foundation.

Delegates Briefed on Muslim Issue

AU3007205489 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] At the wish of some participants in the session of the International Foundation for Mankind's Survival and Development, a meeting with the Bulgarian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Internal Affairs took place today.

Chavdar Mladenov, deputy chief of the Balkan Countries Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yordan Ormankov, spokesman of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Georgi Yordanov, from the Ministry of

Internal Affairs Passport Department, briefed the guests with topical issues of the Bulgarian Balkan policy and on certain amendments to our legislation related to foreign travel passports.

They also answered questions connected with the departure of Bulgarian Muslims to Turkey, stressing that these are voluntary trips abroad, the right to which is part of our legislation.

Along with this, facts related to an anti-Bulgarian propaganda campaign, instigating a psychosis among the Bulgarian Muslims stirred from the outside were pointed out.

The great religious tolerance of the Bulgarian people was pointed out. The full freedom of religious practices in our country was stressed and information was provided on the return of some Bulgarian citizens from Turkey before the visas for their visits had expired.

Official Answers Rumors About Goods Shortages

AU3006120689 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 30 Jun 89 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Normal Rhythm in Domestic Market"]

[Text] At the end of June a rumor spread in certain regions of the country that the state of the domestic market had deteriorated because of the intensive buying up of large amounts of food and nonfood products.

What is the truth? Georgi Bobolev, deputy chief of the Domestic Trade and Services Department of the Ministry of Planning and Economy, answers this question as follows.

The truth is that overall the domestic market is calm, and sales of essential goods are taking place normally without interruption, including such things as meat and meat products, milk and dairy products, sugar, cooking oil, rice, flour, eggs, sugar products, vegetables, and so on. It is also true that certain goods, mostly in the nonfood sector, such as electrical water heaters, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, certain childrens goods, some knitwear, wallpaper, ready-to-wear clothing, and others are being offered in insufficient quantities that fall short of fully covering the consumer purchasing power.

A certain stress in the domestic market has indeed been created in some regions of the country, where the proportion of those wanting to travel abroad is relatively high. Because of the mass foreign travel psychosis caused by the anti-Bulgarian propaganda, people have begun to buy up both food and non-food items in unusual amounts. The consumer demand was exclusively directed toward large purchases of suitcases, ready-to-wear clothing, bed linen, electrical appliances, and other durable goods. The food products purchased included soft and hard cheese, nonperishable salamis, sugar, cooking oil, sugar products, flour, and other items.

The mass purchasing of these goods caused temporary difficulties in certain regions of the country as regards the timely and regular restocking of the retail trade network, and interruptions in sales occurred. The psychosis created coincided in time with the start of the tourist season in Bulgaria, so that purchases by visiting tourists and foreign guests added to the strong demand from Bulgarian citizens wishing to travel abroad.

The interest in our goods is mainly due to the relatively low prices as compared to those in neighboring countries, and to unjustified attempts to overstock with the aim of engaging in illegal speculative deals. In order to protect the domestic market from such illegal occurrences, our government was obliged to adopt appropriate measures, together with the trade organs attached to the people's councils and the trading organizations. These measures primarily relate to improvements to the customs regime regarding the export and import of goods by physical persons, including intensifying the customs control in this connection (by Council of Ministers Decree No 26 of 5 June 1989). Under these regulations, foreign citizens are permitted to take goods out of the country only in normal amounts, while a complete ban has been placed on the export of certain products, such as meat and meat products, beans and lentils, milk and dairy products, flour, sugar, cooking and other vegetable oils, childrens foods, rice, and other items, as well as 11 groups of nonfood products.

Certain restrictions were also introduced in June this year on the sale of food and non-food products, and sales in unusual quantities for the purpose of stockpiling and speculative deals were prohibited.

In this situation, Bulgarian citizens who have purchased goods in unusual amounts may not export them abroad, and thereby risk making losses. On the other hand, some citizens who are not aware of the storage life of food products and who have overstocked these items, also run the risk of losses because of spoilage.

The available stocks of goods and the expected good harvest provide grounds for us to assure the public that the production and trading companies will ensure a normal rhythm of supplies to the domestic market and will guarantee the necessary commodity stocks for the population.

Central Committee Presidium Holds Session

LD3006171289 Prague CTK in English 1549 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Prague June 30 (CTK)—The Presidium of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee decided at its meeting today to convene a nationwide meeting of leading secretaries of regional and district Communist Party committees on September 15-16, within preparations for the 18th party congress due next May.

The session further discussed the orientation of the scientific research work of the party Central Committee's institute of Marxism-Leninism towards settling new tasks arising from the current stage of economic reforms and democratization.

The party Presidium discussed a report of the central control and auditing commission on the results of a control how party organizations implement the resolutions of the 7th session of the party Central Committee on improving cadre policy. [sentence as received] It stated that Leninist principles in the selection, deployment, training and assessment of cadres must be applied more consistently.

The Presidium decided that a Czechoslovak party and Government delegation to participate in celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the Sandinist revolution in July will be led by Presidium member Ignac Janak.

The Presidium also dealt with an attempt at a new provocative signature campaign by some illegal groups, aimed at confrontation with the socialist state, about which the public was informed today in a RUDE PRAVO article headlined "Who Sows the Wind". The Presidium stated that it is being confirmed once again that illegal groups try, with the help of some political circles in the West, to cause tension in society with the aim to destabilize conditions in this country. These are dangerous efforts which most be resolutely opposed everywhere, the Presidium said.

Prague Responds to Radio Free Europe Broadcast

LD3006181689 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] We now present our editional stand on the text entitled "A Few Sentences" which was broadcast early yesterday evening by the U.S. station Radio Free Europe.

"A Few Sentences" can be categorized as one of the most frequently used forms of indirect instructions to engage in antisocialist activity, which is the actual mission of that radio station. The only new feature this time was that the instructions were not addressed to the Poles or Hungarians, but to the Czechs and Slovaks. That is to say people with different experiences and a different temperament, mentality, and interests, and this is where the error and dubiousness of "A Few Sentences" lies, because the traditional level-headedness of our people cannot but ask the following question: What does this petition entitled "A Few Sentences" offer? What does it call for? It predicts ruination. That's all right, because it is not the first time we have heard that. It makes some demands, which is all well and good, but do its authors really think that the national parties and organizations will be willing to began voluntarily dismantling socialism, just like that, and at the whim of someone else?

It threatens sharp confrontation, but it is not clear whether it expects to be paid back in kind. What it fails to tell us, however, is in what name any sober-minded citizen is expected to support the attempts of the authors and inspirers of this text called "A Few Sentences" to whip up a psychosis in society, to bring about the chaos of interminable arguments and mutual recrimination under the veil of freedom of opinion, and to provoke socioeconomic disruption on the pretext of reformist transformation. In what name are our resourceful and peaceable people being asked to prefer chaos and uncertainty and their social, moral, and economic consequences? In the name of a comeback for political hasbeens to their lost positions? In the name of other people's careerism? To return the factories and land ot private owners and new landowners?

There is another question here every thinking person must ask himself: What led some of our fellow-citizens into signing this antisocialist provocation called "A Few Sentences?" We do not mean here, of course, the text's authors and initiators, whose interests are crystal clear. It is also natural for every such petition to be signed by a considerable number of opportunists who think it is high time to jump on the right bandwagon, or by people enticed by the recently publicized Tuzex accounts in the names of a number of dissidents or the reports of the dollar gifts to Polish Solidarity and other similar institutions.

What, though, are we to think about certain artists who not only do not need such lucre, but cannot even be suspected of any such base motives? Can it be frivolity, political naivite, or idealistic gullibility on their part? Can anyone possibly think that now, when our people, despite the difficulties, are resiliently seeking ways of improving the whole social mechanism, such anarchistic experiments as the petition called "A Few Sentences" can lead to anything other than foiling this effort, slowing down the process of democratization, and discrediting restructuring itself?

That is why there cannot be any other response to the next "A Few Sentences" than one syllable: No!

'Slanderous' U.S. Campaign Before Bush Visit

LD0207130689 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1030 GMT 2 Jul 89

["Foreign Policy Comment" by editor Michal Michalcik]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The right-wing forces of the West are attempting to sow seeds of hatred among other socialist countries and their nations. Doing this, they try to make use of mistakes and problems that have been accumulating in our countries for years and cannot be solved in a day. In Hungary and Bulgaria they count on nationalities problems to which they would like to attribute nationalistic touch. In Romania and Czechoslovakia they try to misuse religious feelings and human rights. These representatives of old thinking have never been choosy regarding their methods. They often fall so low as to use deception, calumny, and mean lies, which they are spreading these days through the U.S. broadcasting station Radio Free Europe.

They warn and even threaten that if the regime does not listen to their appeal, there will be a conflict with the entire society. What do they ask for? They ask for the retirement of the present leadership, release of political prisoners, greater religious freedom, as well as—and they do not hide it at all—a change of our social system. Similar attempts took place more than 20 years ago. Was it not perhaps a strong enough lesson? Or did perhaps those who spread similar appeals and sign petitions come to believe Zbigniew Brzezinski, well-known U.S. "expert" on socialist countries, who in one of his latest essays even buried socialism?

It is evident that the present slanderous campaign against Czechoslovakia is to be a sort of test for our leadership before the forthcoming visit of the U.S. President George Bush to Poland and Hungary. There is no need to admit that we do not have the best experience with his visit to central Europe. A few years ago in Vienna, as vice president he put individual socialist countries to school and even gave them marks. Will a new realistic view and favorable assessment of the processes under way in our country prevail in the stand he takes this time? [passage omitted]

Bush Remarks on Trade With Bloc Countries Noted

LD0207221289 Prague Television Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] We already have become accustomed to the fact that the changing situation in the world has blunted the one-time sharp razor blade in international relations. Instead of the word armament, the expression arms liquidation has been cropping up more frequently. Instead of confrontation, we hear more often about cooperation. Thus ideological differences are coming less and less into relations between states.

Such an attitude also could be detected during the news conference given last Tuesday by U.S. President George Bush, in which he appreciated the developing relations with the socialist countries. In connection with his coming visit to Poland and Hungary, he said that the U.S. Administration was preparing measures in the field of economic aid to those countries.

Up to this point, it is possible to agree with his statement. What followed, however, provokes questions. The fact is that the President declared that before such aid is granted, he wants to assure himself that money will not be thrown away. He added that he was encouraged by the development in those countries, but wanted to be certain that the development was going to proceed in our direction, meaning toward Western notions about democracy.

This remark indicates how much the current U.S. Administration is still stuck in the well-worn grooves of the previous administration. Only those governments that dance to the U.S. music can expect the elimination of discriminatory obstacles in trade and economic cooperation. The question must be asked whether in such conditions one can still speak of an independent foreign policy.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Travel to West

LD3006180289 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Ivan Kulhanek, Foreign Ministry press spokesman, issued a statement today on complaints of our citizens regarding problems with obtaining visas to some Western countries. He said that a request has been repeatedly presented to ambassadors and consuls of the FRG, Austria, Italy, Netherlands, France, and Great Britain to improve conditions for issuing visas to Czechoslovak citizens, and to adopt such measures to avoid the occurrence of sometimes even undignified situations in front of some Western consulates in Prague. He also pointed out the action taken by Czechoslovak embassies and consulates which issue Czechoslovak entry visas on the spot in a great majority of cases.

Interior Ministry on New Foreign Travel Rules

LD0107135389 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] According to a report from the Interior Ministry, changes come into effect tomorrow in the conditions for private journeys abroad and in the processing of applications for the issue of travel documents for permanent residence abroad.

According to the measures which have been adopted, citizens may make private trips to nonsocialist states and Yugoslavia in the framework of tourist trips organized through travel offices or other agencies dealing with foreign tourist travel, either: by invitation—although in contrast to existing practice there are no longer any restrictions governed by any family relationship to the person issuing the invitation—or on the basis of a foreign currency allocation from the State Bank, or where a payment has been made specifically for this purpose at a Czechoslovak foreign currency bank into a foreign currency account in the name of a Czechoslovak national held in a Czechoslovak foreign currency bank and in a foreign currency.

In addition to these types of private trip, it will also be possible—and this is new—to make trips by invitation to take part in congresses, symposiums, and lectures; the invitations can come from different organizations and institutions. The condition is the recommendation of the head of the organization in whose interest the trip is to take place.

Private trips can also be made on a repeated basis. Increased attention will continue to be paid to the prompt processing of aplications for the issue of travel documents for private tris of a so-called humanitarian nature. At the same time the conditions have been created for reuniting families in keeping with the final document of the Vienna follow-up meeting. The change consists primarily in the fact that the deadline for the possibility of reuniting a family has been done away with in cases where a member of the family has remained abroad without the consent of the authorities.

The measures which have been adopted and others which are being prepared are a reflection of the active approach by the Czechoslovak state bodies to the consistent and prompt implementation of the Vienna follow-up meeting's final document.

Escape Organization Activists Arrested 29 Jun

LD0307124789 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1200 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] According to a statement issued today by Major Jiri Barohlavek, the press spokesman of the Interior Ministry, in the evening hours of 29 June, security organs detained the perpetrators of the abduction of 10-year-old Lukas Veltrusky, who lived at 54 Na Piskach, Prague-6. They are a 54-year-old man of Hungarian nationality with permanent residence in the FRG and a 37-year-old Czechoslovak woman emigre. The abductors, working for the West German escape [prevazaci] organization Kinderschutz, abducted the juvenile, Lukas, in Prague on 28 June this year. They put him to sleep with the use of drugs and took him to Bratislava where they hid him in a Ford Transit vehicle. Lukas Veltrusky was unlawfully taken by the said vehicle on the same day from Czechoslovakia via Hungary to Austria. Security organs have succeeded in preventing the abduction of another juvenile, a Czechoslovak citizen from Czechoslovakia, and his abduction abroad by the above-mentioned perpetrators. The investigation is continuing intensively. The public will be informed about developments.

Prague Radio Notes Catholic Cardinal's Birthday

LD0107133989 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1200 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] A celebratory holy mass was held today in St Vitus's Cathedral in the grounds of Prague Castle to mark the 90th birthday of the archbishop of Prague, Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek. Attending the service were the reprsentatives of the federal and Czech government Valdimir Janku and Frantisek Jelinek, a Vatican delegation headed by Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, representatives of the Prague diplomatic corps, a delegation of the Roman Catholic Church's European bishop's conference, and representatives of the churches and religious societies in Czechoslovakia.

10,000 Attend Celebration

AU0107134789 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Prague July 1 (AFP)—Up to 10,000 people turned out Saturday to celebrate the 90th birthday of Czechoslovakia's leading Catholic Church dignitary, Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague Frantisek Tomasek. Saint Guy's cathedral in Prague was packed for a special mass organised in his honour and attended by more than 40 bishops and archbishops from 14 European countries, including Poland and Hungary.

Pope John Paul II in a birthday message praised Msgr. Tomasek as "a defender of the Church and human rights" and referred to the "pain" he had been forced to endure under the Communist regime. The Czechoslovak Government refused to acknowledge Msgr. Tomasek's appointment when he was made a bishop in 1949 by Pius XII. He was sent to a labour camp from 1951 to 1954 and from there was transferred to a remote parish until the 1960s. The period from 1949 to 1965 is left out of his official biography.

On leaving the cathedral Saturday, Msgr. Tomasek was followed by thousands of cheering supporters singing the national anthem and the Czech version of "We Shall Overcome". Recent years have seen a revival of religious practice in Czechoslovakia, particularly in the eastern region of Slovakia.

Janak's Closing Speech at CPSL Session 22 Jun

AU2906102789 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 23 Jun 89 pp 1, 2

["The Concluding Speech of Comrade I. Janak at the CPSL Central Committee Session" held in Bratislava on 22 June]

[Text] Comrade Ignac Janak appraised the proposals and suggestions that had been voiced in the critical and matter-of-fact discussion, particularly the speech by Comrade Jozef Lenart, head of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee delegation.

He stressed that the majority of Communists and working collectives in Slovakia express their agreement with and support for the 14th CPCZ Central Committee session. They identify with the frank and fundamental evaluation of party work, the political situation in our republic, and the clear starting points and tasks contained in the report presented by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. They welcomed the fact that the Central Committee has carried out a review of the fulfillment of the tasks resulting from the acceleration of scientific-technical development and the improvement of efficiency in the engineering, metallurgy, and electrotechnical industries. They expect that the adopted conclusions will be fulfilled consistently and more quickly than in the past.

All the information, as the presented report and discussion confirmed, indicates that despite many problems and difficulties in fulfilling the resolution on the acceleration of scientific-technical development, by correctly selecting tasks, by concentrating forces, capacities, and resources, and by good party and organizational work, it is within the strengths and potential of the research and development centers and the enterprises to move matters forward in the right direction.

We especially appreciate the work of the collectives, he said, whose results are comparable with industrial products of developed countries, but unfortunately, there are very few of these products. In 1988 they accounted for only 0.3 percent of the overall volume of the evaluated production in Slovakia. The task of the Communist Party of Slovakia [CPSL] Congress to increase the share of products with a high technical and economic level is not being fulfilled either. Therefore, we are demanding from Communists in science, in research, in managerial functions, in the center, and in enterprises, and from technicians, foremen, and workers that they adopt measures to change the present situation in utilizing scientific-technical development in practice and in improving the quality of products, and that they achieve a fundamental turnaround in utilizing the scientific-technical revolution in practice. This is one of the cardinal tasks of party, state, economic, and social organs and organizations in Slovakia.

Carrying out the structural rebuilding of the economy is required to achieve a turnaround in the intensification, quality, and efficiency of the economy and in further socioeconomic development in Slovakia. Its success will depend on programs being founded in a well-thought-out manner and in time. This requires a high level of knowledge. It will not come about without science and technology and the creative participation of the organizations and workplaces of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, the universities, and specialized research institutes. While compiling these programs we see the need to involve the enterprise sphere much more than we have to date in issues of prospective development. It is essential that today—tomorrow would be too late—Communists in the Slovak Socialist Republic [SR] Government, in the Slovak Academy of Sciences, in universities, in research institutes, and in state enterprises should devote extraordinary care to preparing these programs.

Our future progress and the accelerated introduction of the results of scientific-technical development, the increased efficiency of the utilization of new technology, the better utilization of energy and raw and processed materials, and the overall quality of production depend on the capabilities and knowledge of the people, on their will, energy, and involvement. In our party work we must pay greater attention to the development of the activity and involvement of individuals and collectives because this is irreplacable for implementing the tasks of restructuring. We have many years of experience with the inventors' and improvers' movement, with the work of comprehensive rationalization brigades, and other activities which social organizations are developing. We will continue to support them and to help them find new contents arising out of the needs of today. We ascribe an important significance to the scientific-technical society, which affiliates several thousand scientists, innovators, technicians, improvers, and workers.

If we want to develop science and technology better and to put them into practice more quickly, we will not get by with the enthusiasm of individuals alone. In particular, this requires changes in management and in technologies and, mainly, having prepared cadres. The situation is not so bad that we do not have cadres who are capable of successfully coming to terms with the tasks now, in the new stage of the development of our socialist society. Understandably, it is necessary to constantly organize the preparation of cadres at a much higher level and also to pay greater attention to their deployment.

In implementing the aims of the economic and social development of the Slovak SR, engineering, metallurgy, and electrical engineering, which are to become one of the main sources of the acceleration of economic growth, occupy a key role. In Slovakia this complex accounts for 43 percent of industrial production, and for more than 25 percent in the creation of the national product. We assume that in the year 2005 it will account for up to 40 percent in the creation of the national product. For this it will be necessary to finalize programs of its development.

We expect that within the framework of nationwide programs enterprises in Slovakia will take a significant share in the development of promising manufacturing sectors such as the electronic component base, automation and regulating technology, health care technology, optical memory, the production of finished products and accessories for video technology, progressive aviation technology, and others.

An important task is the accelerated fulfillment of programs for already constructed capacities in Slovakia where changes have come about by development compared to the assumed intentions, for example in BAZ [Bratislava Automobile Works] Bratislava, MEZ [Moravian Electrical Works] Michalovce, Vagonka Trebisov, and in others. For example, in BAZ Bratislava we have built a new factory. Built into it are basic assets to the value of Kcs1.8 billion. A collective of more than 4,500 employees works there. Although several resolutions and decisions were adopted at the Federal Government and department level, to this day the enterprise does not have a realistic production program. It is uneconomical and politically damaging if we leave the production halls empty and unutilized. This situation is the subject of continuous criticism from collectives and citizens and unfavorably influences the political situation in Bratislava. Similarly, it is also necessary to resolve programs in other enterprises so that the share of Slovakia in the creation of nationwide resources increases.

In connection with the issues discussed at today's session of the Central Committee, we consider it necessary to briefly report on the fulfillment of economic tasks. The results of the fulfillment of the economic plan in Slovakia during the first 5 months indicate that the organizations of industry and agriculture are, on the whole, meeting the tasks. Alongside the positive aspects, many problems still persist, in particular, the high irregularity caused by the non-fulfillment of economic agreements and poor discipline in supplier-consumer relations.

From the inquiry carried out by the Slovak SR People's Control Committee it arises that demands from the enterprises exceed the possibilities of the suppliers by an average of 20 percent, which in a chain reaction causes breakdowns in the resulting final products. The common denominator of the problems are objective reasons in management and the continued shortage of fundamental raw and processed materials. Production and marketing plans often do not express nationwide needs or even the potential of producers, such as, for example, in Slovnaft Bratislava, Plastika Nitra, and others.

The findings of the People's Control Committee indicated that allocations for individual consumers were often prescribed by middle tiers of management without a knowledge of the real needs. One enterprise then has a shortage and another a surplus of the same material.

The even distribution of production, a better flow in supplying the internal market, and the guaranteeing of exports will not come about without the speedy eradication of the subjective causes of the existing shortcomings in supplier-consumer relations. At the present time, departments must do more for this. Restructuring in the center does not end just with reducing the number of employees and changing their internal organizational structure. It is essential for it to also be manifested in more competent work with state enterprises today.

A serious problem is the decreasing efficiency of the construction industry, linked with a considerable reduction in the number of workers (in comparison with last year, by more than 5,000) and with the insufficient progression of the development of qualitative parameters. It is necessary to quickly analyze the causes of the situation, to adopt corresponding ways out and, on the basis of this, to pursue them in the leadership, in the ministry, and in individual construction organizations.

It is necessary to devote concentrated attention to enterprises belonging to the general engineering and electrotechnical industry in connection with the reduction in the production of special technology. On 9 June this year the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium discussed a comprehensive proposal on a policy for the effective utilization of the freed capacities of special technology. After elucidating the production targets of these enterprises, it is also necessary to create conditions for 1990 and the Ninth 5-Year Plan, so that the material and technical preparation of the new production is mastered.

Consider it a significant task to involve organizations from Slovakia more effectively and extensively in scientific-technical and economic ties with the socialist, non-socialist, and developing countries. We must involve ourselves more courageously and more decisively in the international division of labor, especially by entering into cooperation, by creating joint workplaces, by selling on third markets, by founding joint enterprises, and so on.

The signed Protocol on the Development of Economic, Scientific-Technical, and Cultural Cooperation Between the Slovak SR and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic also enables the economic and scientific-technical organizations of both republics to cooperate actively and to utilize the advantages which joint enterprise brings in research, production, trade, and culture. Comrade I. Janak further stated that the political situation in Slovakia is, on the whole, stable. In working collectives activity prevails and activity to fulfill the plan is increasing. The organs and organizations of the National Front are beginning to orient their activity more emphatically toward restructuring. Many lingering problems and some complications of the present period of restructuring and democratization are influencing the thinking of Communists and non-party members. However, we must underestimate neither the attempts of some individuals and groups nor the increasing pressure from anticommunist centers, who are trying to cast doubt on restructuring and to destabilize the political situation.

Therefore, today it is extraordinarily important that Communists in all sectors wage a more active struggle to fulfill the resolutions and tasks of restructuring; that they place themselves at the forefront of the struggle to overcome problems, for the ideals of the workers class, the working man, for the creation of a moral and political atmosphere in collectives, in workplaces, and elsewhere in which there will be no room for antisocialist forces to organize themselves and to function.

Coming to terms with the tasks on the road to social restructuring is unthinkable without strengthening the ideological and organizational unity of the party and the intensification of links with all citizens. The thorough adherence to Leninist principles, especially democratic centralism, which lie in the development of the unity of the rights and obligations of each citizen, in broad discussion, in the plurality and crystallization of views in the preparatory stage of resolutions and in their conscious and active fulfillment, creates conditions for the strengthening of party unity. Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, focused attention on these, at present, extraordinarily important issues at the 14th Central Committee session. In this spirit, it is necessary to develop in each party organization a full-blooded internal party life and reinforce the position of the party as the political vanguard of society.

This requires the more effective development of ideological and organizational work, the waging of a decisive struggle by party primary organizations, Communists in workplaces, and in places of residence for the comprehensive fulfillment of tasks and against those who, for various reasons, are concentrating on the destabilization of our internal political situation under the slogans of "restructuring" and "anti-restructuring." We can neither allow ourselves to be taken unawares nor underestimate the fact that not only anticommunist centers from the West, but also certain individuals in our country are blackening the image of the Communist Party, are distorting the past and present, and are criticizing everything and everyone except themselves. They want to disrupt the political and working atmosphere, the coexistence of our nations and nationalities, and enter public awareness as an opposition political force, at the same time, referring to developments in Poland and the Hungarian People's Republic.

We must be more decisive in confronting these and other subversive attempts in party primary organizations, in the National Front, and in the entire political system. In ideological work it is necessary to argue that no social system has done as much as socialism for man and for all mankind in such a short time. Nevertheless, we are not denying the problems we have and which comprehensive social restructuring aims to eradicate.

Nor can we conceal the ills of the contradictory and mutually linked world which, by means of the new thinking, we want to help demilitarize, democratize, and humanize. Precisely in the interest of the equality and humanizing of relations between nations, we will not allow bourgeois models of democracy and the market to be forced upon us, nor advice on how we are to act and what we are to do. As in the past, we did not allow ourselves to be armed to death, today we will not allow ourselves to be "democratized to death" or "ecologized to death." By our work we will confront imperialism's attempts to eliminate the socialist community.

To improve and increase the efficiency of party work it is necessary to utilize the preparation of the annual members' meetings, party conferences, the CPSL Congress, and the 18th CPCZ Congress. We want their level to correspond to the demands which the process of the successful implementation of nationwide restructuring is placing on the party.

New tasks and needs require that we do much more, especially in helping the party primary organizations, so that the annual members' meetings do not become a matter for Communists alone, but for the whole working collective and for the general public. So that they critically evaluate what has been accomplished and how restructuring is progressing.

Interviews with members and candidate members are a significant instrument for the activation of party ranks. They confirmed that the overwhelming majority of party members are not indifferent to the fate of the revolutionary changes toward which we aspire. Their strength is frankness, a more critical consideration of problems, and a search for starting points linked to the fulfillment of contemporary restructuring tasks. We see the guarantee of our further successful development in the increased activity of Communists in solving and removing difficulties and problems, in the broadest possible participation of the citizens, in the expansion of scope for the development of their activity and initiatives on socialist principles.

At the end of his speech, Comrade Ignac Janak expressed his conviction that we will approach the fulfillment of the tasks which were on the agenda of today's discussion decisively and with adherence to communist principles, as well as the guaranteeing of the resolutions of the 14th CPCZ Central Committee session.

Article Blames Turkey for Bulgaria's 'Tension'

AU3006133689 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 29 Jun 89 p 6

[Article by Juraj Benkovic, staff member of the Central Committee of the Slovak Communist Party, and Lubos Kriz, Bratislava PRAVDA editor: "Our Report on Problems in the People's Republic of Bulgaria; What Is the Cause of the Tension?"]

[Excerpts] A week ago we returned from a 2-week study visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The purpose of our journey was to get acquainted in greater detail with the development of socialist democracy and the implementation of the new style of party work. The development of that process has been meeting with the population's extensive support. As you know from previous reports, the process of restructuring in the People's Republic of Bulgaria is being disturbed by the tension that has arisen between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Turkey. Our citizens are asking what is actually going on in fraternal Bulgaria. Therefore, we informed ourselves about the causes and the latest developments at the highest party bodies and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Nothing that would attest to any exceptional events can be seen in the streets of Sofia and Varna. Nevertheless, when speaking with Bulgarians one constantly comes across a subject that excites everyone and causes concern for all: the attitude of Bulgarian Muslims to a new law which is in accord with the Vienna agreements and facilitates the Bulgarian citizens' free movement in the world.

The law on foreign travel passports is to go into effect on 1 September this year. [passage omitted]

Difficulties have begun following an intensive Turkish anti-Bulgarian propaganda campaign. The Turks were asserting—contrary to the truth—that the law will not apply to Bulgarian Muslims. Then they began asserting that the law is designed to make Bulgarian Muslims emigrate from Bulgaria. The panic and unrest that followed claimed 7 dead and 28 injured.

To this day a multitude of Bulgarian Muslims who are leaving their homes for Turkey are queueing up at the Turkish border. They travel by car or cart, loaded with all their possessions. The Bulgarian authorities cause them no difficulties. On the contrary, by having issued them with new passports, they have made it possible for them to return home anytime, even if they have lived in Turkey or elsewhere for no matter how long. However, according to unofficial information, and this also was discussed at a news conference in Sofia, and we have also heard this elsewhere, proceedings at the Turkish border are considerably less democratic. The first question is: Are you a Bulgarian or a Turk? The Bulgarian Muslim knows that if he says he is a Bulgarian, he will not be permitted to cross the border, and thus he says that he is a Turk, and after that the Turkish border guard tears up his passport. Then he has his photograph taken, and the Bulgarian Muslim obtains new Turkish documents. In this way the Turkish side closes the road back for the Bulgarian Muslims, or at least considerably complicates it.

A statement by Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, says that the People's Republic of Bulgaria is perturbed by reports about the way Bulgarian Muslims who live in Turkey are treated. They live in tents in unsuitable refugee camps, and some of them are to be resettled in the northern part of Cyprus, which remains unlawfully occupied by Turkey. Bulgarian citizens will be sent to the place from where the Cypriot Greeks were chased out years ago. This is not the way to resolve the Cyprus problem; this is a provocation for world public opinion.

There are also plans to send Bulgarian Muslims to the Kurds' territory in Turkey. This obviously seeks to settle areas in which there is war and which are becoming depopulated a consequence of the systematic assimilation policy conducted by the Turkish authorities against the Kurds.

However, a great number of the Bulgarian Muslims do not take these reports seriously and continue to emigrate. At the same time, the Bulgarian Government has stated more than once that it is not forcing them to leave their fatherland, on the contrary, it will gladly receive them in Bulgaria.

However, the anti-Bulgarian campaign from abroad continues. By the end of last week more than 50,000 citizens had crossed the Bulgarian-Turkish border, 150,000 had obtained passports, and 250,000 did not apply for them.

The unrest among Bulgarian Muslims continues in some places. They are withdrawing all their savings and buying dollars, the black market exchange rates have risen in some places up to 50 leva per dollar. They are leaving their workplaces long before they intend to leave. According to some reports, some Bulgarian Muslims have not only succumbed to the anti-Bulgarian campaign from abroad, but are also influenced by the stepped up pressure on them by some extremists, who are threatening them with violence, death, or with burning down their homes, if they do not decide to emigrate to Turkey. We were unofficially told in Varna, for example, that there was a case of a Bulgarian Muslim who withdrew his savings and gave away 40,000 leva to people at the railroad station. Intensive talks and gatherings are being held, at which false reports are rectified. State and party bodies are explaining to people that the Bulgarian authorities have given no pretext for mass emigration.

The exodus of hundreds of thousands of citizens from their workplaces, the withdrawal of savings, and the fact that Turkish banks are exchanging any amount of leva for dollars are causing considerable harm to the Bulgarian national economy.

The Bulgarian Muslims are a part of the population which has much higher incomes than the average earnings in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. They are tobacco growers, they work in the mining industry and in services. All these spheres are in difficulties now. [passage omitted]

However, Turkey, which has more than 3 million unemployed as it is, obviously needs the Bulgarian Muslims not in Turkey, but in Bulgaria, acting as a fifth column. Therefore, it is quite probable that its border will not remain open forever. The anti-Bulgarian campaign is also obvious from the Turkish press, in which, for example, a provocative article appeared about the possibility of Turkish troops' landing from Varna all the way to Burgas. However, problems cannot be solved by aggravating the tension. The Bulgarian Government is prepared to conduct talks, it favors good-neighborly, humane, and civilized relations with Turkey, as G. Atanasov , chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, had said.

In quite a few places, when we discussed the problem of the Bulgarian Muslims and their mass exodus from the People's Republic of Bulgaria, we spoke about these issues very openly. Many Bulgarians realize that some mistakes occurred in the past in the approach toward the Bulgarian Muslims, to satisfying their interests. However, the restructuring of all spheres of social life in the People's Republic of Bulgaria is designed to also resolve these old "sins." However, in the present situation world public opinion cannot side with Turkey, which does not resolve problems, but only incites and spreads panic. The People's Republic of Bulgaria is ready for a dialogue. [passage omitted]

Editorial Explains New Economic Planning Law

AU2906111989 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Jun 89 p 1

[Editorial: "New Concept of Planning"]

[Text] The Law on National Economic Planning which the Federal Assembly passed a few days ago is undeniably among the most important laws, the implementation of which represents a basic prerequisite for the operation of the new system of management. It enshrines in a legal norm new methods for setting the plan and organizing the planning process and it sets out the tasks for participants in this process. It proceeds, in principle, from the resolution of the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee from 1987 on the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism and provisions for it.

What is the purpose of the changes? In brief, to move over toward predominantly economic methods of planning, toward methods creating scope for reinforcing both the entrepreneurial activity of socialist organizations and the conceptual work of central agencies. Therein lies one of the fundamental differences from the previous economic reforms, in which the structure and the concept of the plan remained unchanged, commodity-monetary relations, including financial and economic instruments, did not develop on a larger scale, and the existing relationship between the plan and the socialist market was not taken into consideration. Henceforth, the state plan will no longer contain the summary of a multitude of indicators, which used to "fetter" the activity of enterprises, but it will contain mainly levies and other instruments of financial, price, monetary, and wage policy as well as essentially uniform economic normative rates [normativy]. Under the new conditions the comprehensive state plan should thus establish prerequisites for a far greater orientation of all elements of management toward efficiency, balance, and meeting of the needs of society. At the same time, provisions have been made, mainly by means of a system of regulating development which relies predominantly on economic instruments, so that organizations secure the needs of society when making decisions on their economic plans.

The existing planning practice was far from having this effect, although it surely did its best for it. Experience from the fulfillment of the state plan this year, too, indicates that the familiar planning deficiencies known from previous years are repeating themselves. In many cases, the plan was broken down by means of indexation and a large number of directively set targets was established. This has once again allowed a number of enterprises to resort to the "tactics" of arguing that the tasks are not realistic and that they need additional resources. They do not to the required extent seek ways toward raising production efficiency and streamlining internal enterprise management.

From now on enterprises will, to the contrary, be interested in having exacting yet realistic tasks laid down in their plans, in accomplishing their results with the smallest possible input of raw and processed materials, energy, and manpower, and in accomplishing them at a high technical-economic level. This is also the basic target of the economic reform, which makes the entire planning process more democratic and respects under our conditions the laws of the socialist market. One can rightly expect this course of action to yield benefit not only for the national economy as a whole, but also for those labor collectives that will start behaving in this way.

However, the increase in the independence and responsibility of enterprises must not be interpreted as meaning that we are backing away from the principle of management by means of the state plan, that the mandatory nature of the state plan is being cut back, and that, thereby, we are opening the floodgates for the unrestrained operation of the market. Such interpretation would be a fundamental error. In their planning activity enterprises must respect the mandatory targets of the state plan, their contractual obligations, as well as generally binding legal norms. Neither are we giving the green light, nor can we give the green light, as was stressed at the 14th session of the CPCZ Central Committee, to the enforcement of group interests, to the endeavor to improve one's economic results by all kinds of price manipulations, unwarranted markups, pseudo-innovations, cutting back the range of products and deliveries of low-price goods to the market, and so on.

Even under the new economic mechanism, central bodies—branch and cross-sectional ones alike—logically have their essential role. Granted, from now on they will not represent a special layer of planning but will act as a uniform executive center of management. The new concept of central management and planning requires that they focus their activity mainly on the specification of the programmatic targets of the CPCZ's economic and social policy in long-term outlooks and state plans, on the itemization of the strategic programs of economic development, on a marked reinforcement of balance and proportionality, on harmony between material and financial resources, and on the creation of an efficient economic environment in which the enterprises will work, including a radical restriction of central day-to-day and administrative management.

As current practice shows, the introduction of the new style and methods of work will not be an easy matter, even in the center. Already while the law on the sphere of competence of central bodies and the law on national economic planning were being drafted, some central agencies were mostly concerned about their position and their departmental interests. There exists a sufficient number of examples from the past showing that, despite the proclaimed legal powers of lower tiers of management, the reality can be different. While discussing the law in the committees of both national councils and of the Federal Assembly, deputies therefore rightly paid extraordinary attention to the relationship between the center and the enterprise sphere. They demanded, for example, that the center should very responsibly consider the economic impact of state orders and either forestall possible negative influences on organizations or take measures that are needed to come to terms with them. Directly in the text of the law they accentuated the need to improve supplier-user relations and supplies to the domestic market. On aggregate, deputies adopted some 40 alterations to the government draft of the law.

It would be a mistake to assume that with the passing of the law all questions have been resolved that are connected with the endeavor to fundamentally improve the planning process. The introduction of the law in practice will be gradual and will depend on the staff in the center and in enterprises. Planning methods and methodological instructions, which could not be prepared simultaneously with the law, will have to be drawn up soon. The deputies themselves have far from ended their work on this law. As Jozef Belko, who acted as reporter for the committee of the People's Chamber of the Federal Assembly, said during the discussion of the law, the activity of deputies includes, next to the explanation of laws and their practical enforcement, also the evaluation, after a period of time, of compliance with them and of their operation in everyday life.

The intention to continuously devote attention to the implementation of the basic principles of the realization of fundamental revolutionary changes such as the transition to new, predominantly economic methods of setting and itemizing the plan could not be tested in practice to a sufficient degree. [sentence as published] This does not mean that what we are taking is an uncertain step "into the unknown." The need to adopt such a course of action is attested to clearly by the knowledge and experience from the building of socialism in our country to date. This, too, clearly resounded at the joint meeting of deputies.

Some of the new elements of planning were tested within the framework of the comprehensive experiment in increasing the independence and responsibility of economic organizations for their effective development. The restriction of the number of mandatory indicators, the regulation of development by means of normative rates, and the essential unchangeability of tasks and normative rates throughout the duration of the experiment, in particular, acquitted themselves well and enhanced the entrepreneurial activity of economic organizations. On the other hand, the testing of the elements of the new economic mechanism showed the need to exert a more effective influence on the formation of new economic thinking, especially among senior managerial personnel. It is important for their work that they, too, are able to harmonize social and enterprise interests.

Death of CPSL Central Committee Member Noted

AU3006135689 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 29 Jun 89 p 2

[CTK report in the "Briefly From Home" column: "Comrade Imrich Konik Has Died"]

[Text] On Tuesday [27 June] Comrade Imrich Konik, member of the Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee and Hero of Socialist Labor, died at the age of 63 after a serious illness. In the person of Comrade Imrich Konik the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is losing a brave member and gifted functionary, who throughout his entire life carried out work for the welfare of the working class and his socialist homeland. The final parting with the deceased will take place on 4 July 1989 at 1300 in the cemetery at Slavic Udoli.

Leaders' Public Appearances for 22-28 Jun

AU3006144289

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech and Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak from 23 to 29 June report the following appearances of CSSR leaders (sourceline given in parentheses):

The swearing-in ceremony of Pavel Hrivnak as Slovak premier in Bratislava on 22 June was attended by Ignac Janak, Ivan Knotek, and Jozef Lenart. (PRAVDA 23 Jun 89 p 1)

The opening of this year's Incheba chemical industry's fair in Bratislava on 24 June was attended by Pavel Hrivnak, Ignac Janak, and Ivan Knotek. (PRAVDA 26 Jun 89 p 1)

A dinner given in honor of the visiting Australian parliamentary delegation by Alois Indra in Prague on 26 June, was attended by Miroslav Stepan. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 1)

The reception by Milos Jakes of a CSSR delegation prior to its departure for Pyongyang to take part in the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, in Prague on 26 June, was attended by Karel Hoffmann and Milos Jakes. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 1)

The joint session of the Central Committees of the CSSR, Czech, and Slovak National Fronts on environmental issues in Prague on 27 June was attended by Milos Jakes, Ladislav Adamec, Alois Indra, Ignac Janak, Ivan Knotek, Frantisek Pitra, Miroslav Stepan, and Karel Urbanek. (RUDE PRAVO 28 Jun 89 pp 1, 2)

The 14th session of the Slovak National Council in Bratislava on 28 June was attended by Ignac Janak and Pavel Hrivnak. (PRAVDA 29 Jun 89 p 1)

Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, received Australian parliamentary delegation headed by Kerry Walter Sibraa in Prague on 27 June. (RUDE PRAVO 28 Jun 89 p 1)

Ladislav Adamec, Presidium member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee (CPCZ Central Committee) and CSSR premier, received Viktor Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR, in Prague on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 2)

Jan Fojtik, Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, received Kurt Loeffler, state secretary for GDR church affairs, in Prague on 22 June. (RUDE PRAVO 23 Jun 89 p 2) He addressed a consultation of media representatives on their responsibilities in Prague on 27 June. (RUDE PRAVO 28 Jun 89 p 2)

Josef Haman, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the Central Bohemian CPCZ Regional Committee, presented to veteran party member Josef Javurek CPCZ Central Committee's congratulatory letter on his 90th birthday, in Prague on 23 June. (RUDE PRAVO 24 Jun 89 p 2)

Vladimir Herman, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the South Moravian CPCZ Regional Committee, presented to Hero of Socialist Labor Karel Kyzlink a letter of congratulations on his 80th birthday from Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, in Brno on 22 June. (RUDE PRAVO 23 Jun 89 p 1)

Pavel Hrivnak, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Slovak premier, met with Viliam Salgovic, chairman of the Slovak National Council, in Bratislava on 26 June. (PRAVDA 27 Jun 89 p 1) He presided over a meeting of the Presidium of the Slovak Government in Bratislava on 27 June. (PRAVDA 28 Jun 89 p 1) He received representatives of the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Bratislava on 28 June. (PRAVDA 29 Jun 89 p 1)

Alois Indra, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, received Australian parliamentary delegation headed by Kerry Walter Sibraa, in Prague on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 1)

Ignac Janak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and first secretary of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee (CPSL Central Committee), presented to Heroine of Socialist Labor Eleonora Hvizdosova, CPCZ Central Committee member, a letter of greetings from the CPCZ Central Committee on her birthday, in Bratislava on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 1) He received the outgoing Hungarian Consul Jozsef Toth in Bratislava on 26 June. (PRAVDA 27 Jun 89 p 1)

Jozef Lenart, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member, received Afghan Ambassador Abdul Baqi Samandari in connection with the end of the latter's tour of duty in the CSSR, in Prague on 23 June. (RUDE PRAVO 24 Jun 89 p 2) He presented to Juraj Varholik the Order of Labor on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday, in Prague on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 2)

Frantisek Pitra, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and Czech premier, attended award ceremony for composer Jindrich Pravecek in Prague on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 1)

Miroslav Stepan, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and leading secretary of the Prague CPCZ City Committee, presided over a meeting which discussed the preparation of a law on Prague, in Prague on 22 June. (RUDE PRAVO 23 Jun 89 p 2)

Karel Urbanek, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the Committee for Party Work in the Czech Socialist Republic, arrived for a 2-day visit in the North Moravian region on 28 June. (PRAVDA 29 Jun 89 p 2)

Miroslav Zajic, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, visited the Agris 89 agricultural exhibition in Brno on 27 June. (RUDE PRAVO 28 Jun 89 p 2) Zajic was among those who bade farewell Jozef Lenart, member of the

Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at Prague Ruzyne Airport when departing for Belgrade on 28 June. (PRAVDA 29 Jun 89 p 1)

Miroslav Zavadil, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the Central Trade Union Council [URO], heading a URO delegation, left for an official visit to Spain on 25 June. (PRAVDA 26 Jun 89 p 2)

Jaromir Johanes, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, welcomed his Ethiopian counterpart Berhanu Bayeh upon the latter's arrival at Prague Ruzyne Airport on 22 June. (RUDE PRAVO 23 Jun 89 p 1) Johanes attended Berhanu's reception by CSSR President Gustav Husak at Prague Castle on the same day. (RUDE PRAVO 23 Jun 89 p 1) He was present when Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, received Berhanu in Prague on 23 June. (RUDE PRAVO 24 Jun 89 p 1) Johanes saw off Berhanu at Prague Ruzyne Airport on 24 June. (PRAVDA 26 Jun 89 p 1) He received Afghan Ambassador Abdul Baqi Samandari in connection with the end of the latter's tour of duty in the CSSR, in Prague on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 2)

Milan Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, presented to Major General Jaroslav Straka the Order of Labor on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday, in Prague on 26 June. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Jun 89 p 2)

'Authority' Denies Diversion of Funds to Libya

LD0107174389 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1620 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—As announced by a responsible authority, the claim put forward in an AP report on 30 June by a former employee of the U.S. National Security Council that a $600 million credit from Western banks for the GDR was diverted to Libya, and from there part of it was passed on to international terrorist groups, is not in accordance with the facts.

Trade Union Official Criticizes Enterprises

LD3006175989 Hamburg DPA in German 1535 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The GDR trade union federation, FDGB, has in unusually direct terms criticized shortcomings in GDR enterprises and has spoken of "complications and conflicts" which often lay "in the violation of the workers' right to have a say." The deputy chairwoman of the FDGB, Johanna Toepfer, criticized in a keynote article bureaucratic behavior on the part of enterprise managers toward trade unionists. In Friday's edition of the East Berlin TRIBUENE, she also indirectly warns of falling membership and dropping performance if the trade union organizations are denied the opportunity to effectively represent the interests of employees.

Workers react "with concern" if decisions are made over their heads which negatively affect their working and living conditions. "Badly thought-out interference by individual industrial officials which harm the democratic structure of the enterprise and collective are unacceptable. This was demonstrated by the recent trade union elections."

These remarks lead the reader to conclude that in some cases there has been conflict between the FDGB and state authorities in the implementation of the SED's [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] economic and social policy. The latest trade union elections led to clear losses for some officials.

The grievances listed by Mrs Toepfer include insufficient labor organization, formal, administrative treatment of wages and bonuses, and disregard for enterprise collective contracts. There was criticism, "while duly recognizing achievements in social security in general," of hygiene and sanitary conditions, labor and health protection, maintenance of production sites. "Every so often complaints are made that the solving of urgent problems is dragged on over long periods."

Politburo Report to Central Committee Plenum

AU2806060189 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 23 Jun 89 pp 3-9

["From the Politburo Report to the Eighth Session of the SED Central Committee; Rapporteur: Joachim Herrmann, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee"]

[Text] Dear comrades:

Since the 12th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] was convened by the seventh Central Committee session, our party has done great work. This work was outlined in the speech given by our general secretary, Comrade Erich Honecker, with its basic guidelines for all questions of domestic and foreign policy, for the further shaping of the developed socialist society in the GDR, and the safeguarding of peace.

The working people's large demonstrations on 1 May, the vote for our policy in the local elections, the support of the young generation for socialism in the GDR during the Whitsun meeting of the Free Germany Youth [FDJ], the future-oriented discussions at the ninth Pedagogical Congress—all these events during the period under review demonstrate how firmly the values of socialism are anchored among the people. The unity of economic and social policy was consistently implemented, which encouraged new initiatives from the working people. Under conditions that were open to the world, we continued the building of socialism as a historical process of profound political, economic, social, and intellectual-cultural changes.

Through the concurrence of word and deed the SED lived up to its leading role as a Marxist-Leninist party of the workers class. In alliance with all parties and mass organizations that are united in the Democratic Bloc and the National Front, it implemented the policy for the welfare of the people, which is characterized by continuity and renewal. Solid foundations were established for the further preparation of our 12th congress.

Important Initiatives and Advance Moves of Socialism for Disarmament and Detente

Comrades, if one looks back at the period since the seventh Central Committee session, the statement by our general secretary has confirmed that a number of positive changes can be seen in international relations and that a change from confrontation toward detente has been initiated. Now this process has to be continued with determination, it must be made irreversible. This is all the more important in view of the intensified activities of those politicians in the West who still stick to the position of "nuclear deterrence" and at the same time are interfering more openly than ever before in the internal affairs of the socialist countries.

The positive developments in the international situation—as expressed by the Soviet-U.S. agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range missiles, by the beginning of the Vienna negotiations conventional disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures in Europe, and by progress in settling some regional conflicts through political means—are the result of the dynamic foreign policy course of the USSR, the GDR, and the other socialist states, the activities of those states and social forces in the world that are guided by reason and realism. However, because of the efforts to the contrary by influential NATO forces to achieve military superiority and confrontation, the international situation remains complicated and contradictory.

During the period under review, the Warsaw Pact states again initiated numerous disarmament initiatives and made unprecedented advances so as not to halt the disarmament process.

In connection with the data on the numerical strength of the armed forces and armaments of both military coalitions in Europe and the adjacent seas, which was published by the Warsaw Pact states at the end of January, the readiness was again confirmed to work in line with the defensive character of our military doctrine for a speedy considerably reduction in the level of military balance until an inability to attack is achieved on both sides. This is the aim of the concrete proposals presented by our alliance at the Vienna negotiations, which envisage a radical reduction in the armaments and armed forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO to agreed equal ceilings, while taking into consideration those categories which are especially suited for surprise attacks and large-scale attack operations.

GDR Fulfills Its Contribution to Peace

At an exposed location in Europe the GDR is making its active contribution to the disarmament process without a break. In January the GDR National Defense Council decided to reduce the National People's Army by 10,000 men, 600 tanks, and 50 planes by 1990—unilaterally and independent of negotiations. The National People's Army will be given an even more strictly defensive character. This includes the disbanding of six tank regiments and one plane squadron. Already in April the first units in Tank Regiment 8 in Goldberg were disbanded, an event which was attended by domestic and foreign media.

An important step is the decision to use 11,500 army members, after brief military training, in focal areas of the national economy for the duration of their active military service and to promote the further dynamic development of the GDR, while ensuring our country's defensive strength.

Our initiatives to establish a nuclear-free and a chemical-weapon-free zone at the dividing line between NATO and Warsaw Pact remain topical.

Dear comrades, in April, with the proposal to NATO to start separate negotiations on tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, the offers for negotiations on disarmament of all kinds of weapons were enriched by an essential element. This important initiative of socialism, which was presented at the Berlin session of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Pact states, proceeds from the fact that the danger of a surprise attack or the start of a nuclear conflict cannot be eliminated as long as tactical nuclear weapons remain on European soil. Only the speedy start of negotiations on tactical nuclear weapons in Europe parallel to the Vienna negotiations on conventional armed forces offers a realistic chance to considerably reduce all weapons systems that have the ability to initiate surprise attacks and large-scale attack operations.

The GDR welcomes and supports the USSR's decision to unilaterally shift 500 warheads of tactical nuclear weapons from the territory of the allied states to its own territory this year, and its willingness to withdraw all nuclear ammunition from the territories of its allies by 1991, provided that the United States takes a similar step.

NATO Strategy Maintains "Nuclear Deterrence"

Comrades, the NATO summit in Brussels at the end of May pursued the goal of setting down uniform actions by the NATO states in view of the disarmament initiatives of the Warsaw Pact states. Looking at the results of the summit, one must note that in the approved "overall concept for arms control and disarmament" NATO's striving for military superiority over the Warsaw Pact, the affirmation of the policy of "nuclear deterrence," and an entire bunch of measures for interference in the internal affairs of the socialist states are dominating.

The proposals presented by U.S. President George Bush concerning the Vienna negotiations on conventional armed forces in Europe are a first response to the disarmament offers of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, which constitutes a certain progress compared with the attitude in this field up to now. The readiness to include land-based combat aircraft and combat helicopters in the negotiations is a positive step toward bringing the negotiation concepts of the two military alliances closer together. At the same time, the start of negotiations on short-range nuclear missiles is made dependent on coming to an agreement on an accord at the Vienna negotiations, and nobody knows when this will be reached. This connection harms the disarmament process. In addition, the reequipment of the Lance missiles, which is called a "modernization" is only postponed in view of the fear that this might have a negative effect on the next Bundestag elections in the FRG in 1990. The Brussels decision expressly states that the United States will accelerate its work in research and development for a follow-up system to these missiles. As is known, they are to compensate for the potential threat that is being lost because of the INF Treaty.

NATO's adherence to the obsolete military doctrine concept of "nuclear deterrence," which envisages the first use of nuclear weapons, again demonstrates the policy of military strength, which is the basis of the continuation of the nuclear arms race and shows the adherence to old patterns of thought. The scenario of the "Wintex-Cimex" staff maneuver was also characteristic of this, in which there was a practice release of 30 strikes with nuclear weapons, with the participation of all NATO states.

The soonest possible conclusion of a treaty between the USSR and the United States on the 50-percent reduction of their strategic offensive weapons while adhering to the ABM Treaty in the form in which it was signed in 1972, a comprehensive nuclear test ban, and the conclusion of a convention on the elimination of chemical weapons remain the priority tasks. The GDR welcomes the fact that the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on strategic and space weapons in Geneva have been resumed.

The Politburo accepted a briefing by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, on his official visit in the FRG. It welcomes the results of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the FRG as an important contribution to preserving and stabilizing peace in Europe. The Joint Statement signed by both countries in Bonn is a document that applies the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems and alliance memberships and can serve further steps on the path toward European security and cooperation. As Mikhail Gorbachev stressed after his visit, regardless of all ideological and political differences, every policy has to focus on concern for the survival of mankind. War must no longer be a means of politics, one's own security must not be safeguarded at the expense of others.

In concurrence with the policy that it pursues itself, the GDR supports the standpoints mentioned in the statement on deepening and continuing the disarmament process. It accords particular importance to the commitment to respect the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and security of every state, the right of all states to freely chose their social system, and to respect the right to self determination and the norms of international law. The GDR agrees with the positions expressed by Mikhail Gorbachev that the peoples in Europe consider radical disarmament in the conventional field, short-range nuclear systems, and chemical weapons to be in their very own vital interest.

The Politburo stresses its complete concurrence with the official statement issued by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo on Mikhail Gorbachev's visit, which stresses the visit's importance for the relations between the USSR and the FRG and, beyond that, for all of Europe. They are part of building the common European home. The official statement of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo that the Joint Statement "further develops the ideas of the Moscow Treaty under the new conditions and is based on the adherence to the order developed during the postwar period and on the inviolability of the borders, is an important contribution to modernizing European and international relations in general"—this statement is unambiguous and does not leave any room for any kind of speculation, not even in Bonn's government statement.

Corresponding to the GDR's peace mission is the will to do everything so that war will never again start from German soil. This is also the guideline for our activities which was set down on the occasion of the commemoration of the beginning of World War II which was unleashed by the Hitler fascists 50 years ago.

We will never forget the 50 million dead of World War II, whose lives were claimed by Nazi Germany's obsession to conquer. The heroism of the fighters of the Soviet Union and of the other powers of the anti-Hitler coalition in destroying the brown beast remains unforgotten. The heroic struggle of the German Communists, social democrats, trade unionists, Christians, and Jews, of men and women of the workers class, the intelligentsia, the peasantry, the lower middle classes, the bourgeoisie, and also of the military and of all antifascists is a dear legacy to our people, a legacy which continues to have an effect in our peace policy.

Dear comrades; at present we are experiencing very intensive efforts by certain politicians of capitalist countries to exert political, ideological, and economic pressure on socialist countries and to make them take over capitalist social concepts and structures, bourgeois pluralism, and bourgeois ideology. Under the banner of "renewal of socialism" forces are at work that are striving for the elimination of socialism. In this connection, we are greatly concerned about the development in Hungary. The attacks on socialism go hand in hand with the demand for calling into question the current realities in Europe. But whoever tries to cast doubt on these realities, in particular on the European borders, whoever proclaims again and again the revanchist slogan of the reestablishment of the German Reich within the borders of 1937, whoever interferes in the internal affairs of the socialist states and criticizes its sovereign behavior undermines the foundations of the European postwar order and ultimately endangers the change from confrontation to detente in international relations. This should be clear particularly to those politicians in the West who recently have not let one single public appearance pass without attacking the "Wall," the national border between the GDR and Berlin (West). The GDR should renounce its safety from economic plundering, from the intrusion of criminal elements, from psychological warfare, and from drug trafficking. This will not happen, of course. Experiences during the time until August 1961 were bitter enough, and everyone knows that peace in Europe was in danger more than once. Therefore, the GDR has repeatedly expressed its view: The "Wall" will exist as long as the reasons for its construction have not been eliminated. Writer Stefan Heym added an idea which is very topical for the FRG and Berlin (West). In an interview for an FRG television station he said recently: If I look at your Mr Schoenhuber and at what is crawling out of the brown swamp which still exists, and if I take into consideration the fact that this might spread under certain circumstances, I think that it might be good if the GDR remains and the Wall continues to be a bit of protection, so that one day there is a part of Germany which can grant asylum to Greens and Social Democrats, and others who would at that time be persecuted by the fascists."

Concerning the GDR, in its statement on the implementation of the agreements of the CSCE process, the People's Chamber confirmed the principle that no one has the right to infringe upon our sovereignty.

This also applies to the massive campaigns and attempts at interference under the pretext of human rights. Their initiators are least concerned about the promotion of human rights or cooperation in humanitarian and other areas. They are much rather aiming at poisoning the atmosphere, at confrontation. It is particularly important to stress this, because Western media and politicians normally blithely keep silent about the fact that internationally fixed human rights are violated or simply not granted to millions of people in capitalist countries, while they think they can patronize other states. As the GDR foreign minister stressed at the Paris conference on the human dimension of the CSCE, for us the most important human right—the right to life and peace—has always been in the foreground. Respecting this right is the basic precondition for implementing all human rights.

Cooperation which is conducive to the promotion of human rights and to humanitarian concerns is possible only if the sovereign rights of the states are respected. The GDR can show important achievements in implementing human rights in all fields and an exemplary contribution to cooperation among the states in the humanitarian sector. This was the GDR's path of action in working for the success of the Vienna CSCE follow-up meeting. With its practical policy, it shows day after day that it is implementing the Vienna agreements within the framework of national legislation, thus continuing to actively shape the CSCE process. With its policy of dialogue and readiness for understanding, it is working to make peace, security, and equal cooperation for the benefit of all people the determining element in Europe.

Close Cooperation With Fraternal States

Dear comrades, for the period covered by this report one can note that there has been a very extensive and diverse exchange of opinions and experiences between the fraternal parties of socialist countries, and cooperation between our states in the most diverse fields.

The Politburo attached primary importance to further implementing the agreements concluded between Comrades Erich Honecker and Mikhail Gorbachev in September 1988, which are aimed at further extending fraternal cooperation with the USSR and the CPSU in all spheres. The two sides agreed on a number of landmark steps for the increasingly closer interconnection of the USSR's and the GDR's national economies and scientific potentials for the 1991 to 1995 period, and up to the year 2000. During Comrade Kurt Hager's visit to Moscow in December 1988, the long-term program on cooperation in the field of social science between scientists and research collectives of both countries was signed, and a joint commission of GDR and USSR social scientists was established this May.

The visit to Berlin by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, was characterized by a further deepening of the comprehensive cooperation between the GDR and the USSR. In the meeting between Erich Honecker and Eduard Shevardnadze both politicians emphasized their satisfaction at the level of fraternal relations between the SED and the CPSU, which are exemplary in their intensity and in their many and diverse forms. They stressed that they share the same views on the basic questions of foreign politics and socialist construction. Concerning Eduard Shevardnadze's friendly visit to the GDR, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo noted "that the exchange of opinions that has been conducted in Berlin with the leadership of the GDR, with which it is in friendly alliance, has confirmed the joint position of both countries on key questions of bilateral relations of international and European policy, as well as their efforts to make the positive changes that have been initiated in the international situation irreversible." We are sure that this will also be expressed during Erich Honecker's imminent visit to Moscow and his participation in the celebrations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of Magnitogorsk.

Close solidarity, cooperation, and a wide exchange of experiences have characterized the Berlin Days in Moscow, which were comprehensively used by the Berlin party organization together with representatives of the public in the capital of the GDR to familiarize the citizens of Moscow with our life, our socialist democracy, and our communal policy.

Since December 1988, the SED has sent 11 delegations to the USSR, while 10 delegations of the CPSU Central Committee have come to visit the GDR.

Dear Comrades; the meeting between Erich Honecker and Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPC], in Prague has been an important event. Honecker and Jakes had a detailed exchange of opinions on the development of socialism in both countries and on the international situation. Far-reaching agreements were concluded in order to consolidate cooperation with the CSSR in the interest of strengthening socialism and securing peace in Europe for the benefit of the citizens in both countries. The signing of the treaty on the youth foundation between the GDR and the CSSR is proof of this.

The leading SED and CPC representatives briefed each other on how both parties are implementing the generally valid patterns of Marxism-Leninism under the specific conditions in each country, how they are taking into account the experiences of other socialist countries, without adopting what fails to yield the necessary effect in one's own country. It was stressed that, considering the many and diverse developments, it is important to close the ranks of the Marxist-Leninist parties in the framework of socialist society at large. The further exchange of experience between the two parties will focus on the values of socialism, the paths toward strengthening its economic and social attraction, and the strengthening of the leading role of the Marxist-Leninist parties.

The results of the friendly meeting between Comrade Erich Honecker and Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] and chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic [PPR] are of great political importance. The significant talks during the meeting in Berlin, the signing of the joint declaration of the SED and the PZPR on the principles, tasks, and objectives in further developing cultural cooperation between the GDR and the PPR through the year 2000, the agreement between the central committees of the two parties on long-term cooperation in the field of social sciences, and the treaty between the two states on the demarcation of the Oder Bight sea territories form an even more solid basis for close cooperation between the two parties and states and open up new, far-reaching perspectives. It was demonstrated that the problems that have arisen can be solved by dialogue and political agreement, both sides stressed.

In the tested practice of regular, trustful top-level cooperation, primary importance has to be attached to the Berlin meeting, because it serves to further develop and strengthen the cooperation and the alliance between the SED and PZPR on the basis of Marxist-Leninist principles. Despite all different developments, the cooperation between the GDR and the PPR is and remains an important factor of stability and peace in Europe and an effective contribution to strengthening socialism. The treaty on the friendship program of the GDR and the PPR youth is purposefully implemented by the socialist youth associations of the two countries.

All this shows that the GDR is attaching great importance to relations with the PPR. Poland is a socialist country and occupies an important place in the community of the Warsaw Pact member states. We are interested in further deepening the fraternal ties between the GDR and the PPR which have existed for decades. The SED regards the cordial friendly relations between the GDR head of state and the chairman of the PPR Council of State as a pledge for beneficial development, in the future. We consider the creation of the president's office in the PPR as a guarantee for cooperation between the PPR and GDR social orders in the spirit of strengthening their alliance.

In response to an invitation which has been extended in the meantime, the GDR will send a delegation of resistance fighters to the 50th anniversary of the invasion of Poland by Hitler's Germany.

In the time that has elapsed, the Politburo devoted great attention to the development of friendship with the PRC. Both sides, the PRC as well as the GDR, are jointly preparing the 40th anniversary of their founding. In the spirit of mutual understanding and trust, the relations with the CPC were deepened. Representatives of the two parties and states met in Berlin and Beijing and, in a lively exchange of experiences and opinions, further developed the fraternal cooperation which had been initiated by the visit by the general secretary of our party and chairman of the GDR State Council in October 1986. The SED paid tribute to the Soviet-Chinese summit and the agreements reached there as an international political event.

As regards the latest events in the PRC, the GDR has now published all the respective announcements and statements of the PRC party and state leadership to provide objective information and to refute horrific Western reports. The students' peaceful demonstrations in Beijing were planned to be used for a counterrevolutionary overthrow of the people's power in China. In a statement put forward by the SED Group, the GDR People's Chamber stressed that the political solution of internal problems for which the Chinese party and state leadership has consistently striven was prevented by the violent, bloody riots of elements hostile to the Constitution, and thus the people's power was forced to reestablish order and security by using the armed forces. The People's Chamber stressed that it considers the events in Beijing to be exclusively an internal affair of the PRC and opposes any external interference. The deputies of the supreme people's representation expressed their firm conviction that, in close solidarity with the people, the PRC party and state leadership is taking measures that serve to clear up the problems and further advance the Chinese fraternal people on the road of socialism which was freely chosen 40 years ago.

The focus of the relations with the Socialist Republic of Romania are the agreements made by Comrade Erich Honecker and Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu in Berlin in November 1988. The talk between Comrade Ceausescu and Comrade Hermann Axen in Bucharest in April reaffirmed the usefulness of the universal and comradely exchange of opinions and experiences between the fraternal parties and the need to successfully implement the joint commitments in all fields.

Questions of cooperation with Cuba were discussed on the occasion of a visit by a GDR party and state delegation to Havana on the 30th anniversary of the victory of the revolution and during the meetings with Fidel Castro and other leading politicians of friendly Cuba. In a talk in Berlin with Jorge Risquet, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Comrade Erich Honecker paid tribute to Cuba's staunchness and firm principles in the complicated international class struggle and affirmed that the SED and the GDR will continue to stand at the side of the Cuban people in the spirit of proletarian internationalism.

In December 1988 SFRY President Raif Dizdarevic paid an official friendly visit to the GDR. In the talks with Comrade Erich Honecker, the mutual readiness to further strengthen the friendly relations and universal cooperation on the tested basis was expressed. The highest representatives of the two countries advocated the continuation of the political dialogue at all levels and the extension of direct contacts. A "long-term program of scientific and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and the SFRY through the year 2000" was signed.

The talks that were held by comrades of the Politburo with members of the Bulgarian, Chinese, CSSR, Yugoslavian, DPRK, Cuban, Mongolian, Polish, Romanian, Soviet, Hungarian, and Vietnamese party and state leaderships also show the intensity of the exchange of opinions and experiences with the fraternal parties in the socialist countries.

A delegation headed by Comrade Horst Dohlus participated in the conference on organizational questions of the Central Committee secretaries of the fraternal parties of socialist countries in Havana in June.

In fulfillment of the cooperation plans, the SED received 27 delegations, and 17 delegations of our parties paid study visits to fraternal countries.

Dear comrades, in accordance with the experiences made since the seventh Central Committee session, the SED's policy continues to be guided by the principle that every socialist country is building socialism in accordance with its conditions and that every party is exclusively responsible toward its own people for this. If burgeois politicians and ideologists want to use the diversity of socialist development as an opportunity to drive a wedge between the socialist countries, these intentions will not be fulfilled. Our party will continue to fulfill its internationalist duty by building socialism in the GDR as effectively as possible and by doing everything in its power to implement the agreements with the fraternal countries and develop relations in the spirit of mutual solidarity and support.

Dear comrades, the official friendly visit to the GDR by Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, was important for our relations with Ethiopia. During the trustful exchange of opinions with the Ethiopian head of state, Comrade Erich Honecker emphasized the GDR's firm solidarity with Ethiopia. It was stated with great satisfaction that the fruitful bilateral relations, which are based on joint objectives and the same views, have been further advanced and deepened, especially after the signing of the treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two states and the cooperation agreements between the two parties. Comrade Erich Honecker supported all efforts to settle the situation that had arisen in the north of the country in the interest of internal peace and further economic and social progress, and welcomed any measure for a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

After a speech by Mengistu to the country's parliament, the Ethiopian Government proposed a cease-fire and unconditional negotiations to the separatist forces in Eritrea and the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] to achieve just and permanent peace in the country's northern regions. In the meantime, the TPLF has accepted Mengistu's offer of negotiations and consented to talks to this effect.

Through the official visit to the GDR by Joaquim Chissano, president of the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, relations between our parties and states were further expanded. Comrade Erich Honecker paid tribute to the sacrificial struggle of the Mozambican people under the leadership of the Frelimo Party to defend the country's sovereignty and ensure a better and more decent life. He assured the Mozambican representative that the GDR supports all activities and steps taken by Mozambique and the other frontline states to guarantee national independence, political stability, and the social and economic development of these countries in the interest of their people. Both politicians welcomed and endorsed all efforts that are being made to arrive at peaceful solutions to regional conflicts as an important contribution to improving the international climate and to strengthening tendencies in the world that are aimed at peace and development.

Comrades, the GDR has purposefully continued its efforts for the further development of its relations with capitalist countries. Political dialogue and the shaping of contractual relations, and the stability and dynamism of cooperation characterize the relations between our Republic and the Kingdom of Sweden. This was expressed by Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson in his talks with Comrade Erich Honecker during his state visit to Berlin in January. They agreed to activate political dialogue between the states bordering on the Baltic Sea, and to make better use of the good preconditions for the development of trade and economic relations, as well as for cultural and scientific exchange as a contribution to pan-European cooperation.

Relations of Peaceful Coexistence Between the GDR and FRG

Comrades, in accordance with the tasks set by the 11th SED Congress, the securing of peace was also at the center of the diverse relations between the GDR and FRG. Since Erich Honecker's official visit to the FRG in September 1987, these relations have in general developed positively. The joint communique laid the foundations for this. In the future, too, all points of this communique must be fulfilled.

In a letter addressed to Chancellor Helmut Kohl on 10 February of this year, Comrade Erich Honecker confirmed that the GDR sees the active promotion of the process of disarmament and detente by both German states as the core of political dialogue . Lasting security and mutually advantageous cooperation to the benefit of the people are attainable only through a halt to the arms race, unconditional disarmament, genuine confidence-building, and a complete normalization of relations between the countries.

This continues to demand a sense of reality with regard to the conditions that have arisen as a result of World War II and its aftermath, which 40 years ago led to the founding of two states with different social systems on German soil. Both states are independent in the resolution of their internal and external affairs, and start from the premise—and this is also mentioned in the communique—that the inviolability of borders and a respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all countries in Europe within their present borders are a fundamental requirement for peace. In this respect, one can only agree with those politicians in East and West, in North and South, who regard the very preservation of these principles as a factor for peace, security, and detente in Europe.

In view of the spread of activities by neo-Nazi forces in the FRG, in a joint appeal the SED, the DKP [West German Communist Party], and the SEW [Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin], on the basis of the bitter lessons of the past, have urged all peace-loving and antifascist and democratically-minded people in Europe to jointly stop neo-Nazism and the military danger. The document contains a question addressed to the Bonn coalition parties as to what extent they themselves are preparing the ground for neo-Nazi forces through nationalist standpoints and through a policy of drastic social cuts, mass unemployment, and new poverty, tolerance of xenophobia, job denial, and the violation of human rights.

The recent elections in the FRG to the EC Parliament and at local government level in Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland have made clear to the world in a terrible way how great the influence of the neo-Nazis has already become. They have already entered the parliaments in both the FRG and Berlin (West). Now they will also enter the so-called European Parliament in Strasbourg. What just a few months ago was claimed to be a short-lived phenomenon in the life of the FRG is refuted by the fact that there are towns where this party, led by a former member of the "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler," succeeded in capturing up to 20 and 25 percent of the vote. In all three elections, the CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] suffered, on its own admission, a heavy defeat. The drop in votes makes it plain that the present government no longer has a majority among the voters in the FRG.

The reason why we are concerning ourselves with the spread of neo-Nazi forces in the FRG is because of the danger this development represents for peace in Europe. This is not a matter of interference in the FRG's internal affairs, but of a violation of the principles of the Potsdam Agreement, according to which the main lesson after World War II, which was unleashed by Hitler's Germany, was the commitment to eradicate Nazism and all its roots and to make its resurgence impossible for all time. Fulfillment of this principle is more topical than ever before in the FRG and also in Berlin (West), and relieves no politician of whatever persuasion of his responsibility.

Dear comrades, on the basis of the interest of both sides in businesslike cooperation between the two German states, Comrade Erich Honecker had talks with the ministers and Senat presidents of the FRG laender of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Baden-Wuerttemberg, and Lower Saxony. Talks with Bjoern Engholm, Henning Voscherau, and Joannes Rau, were dominated by agreement between the SED and and Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] in questions concerning the safeguarding of peace and the security partnership. The Social Democrat politicians opposed the modernization of short-range nuclear weapons deployed in the FRG and spoke in favor of a third zero-option. In talks with the CDU politicians Lothar Spaeth and Ernst Albrecht it was emphasized that the reduction and elimination of tactical nuclear weapons is of vital importance, particularly for the citizens in the two German states.

On 25 May, Erich Honecker received SPD Chairman Hans-Jochen Vogel for a further exchange of views on current developments in the international situation and on questions of bilateral relations between the GDR and FRG and relations between the SED and SPD. The annual meeting between representatives of the SED and SPD, which has already become a tradition, confirmed the firm resolve of both parties to continue to proceed along the path of security partnership, dialogue, and cooperation between Communists and Social Democrats in the vital matters of humanity. The GDR will continue to strive to free German soil from ABC [atomic, bacteriological, and chemical] weapons, as Erich Honecker pointed out.

Regarding the document drawn up by the SPD's Basic Values Commission and the Academy for Social Sciences of the SED Central Committee, entitled "The Conflict of Ideologies and Joint Security," there have been many discussions by leading representatives of both parties on questions of security policy. The usefulness of businesslike debates on disarmament was emphasized, and it was also stressed that peaceful coexistence between countries can never mean ideological coexistence. The striving for civilized forms of conflict can never mean convergence of the two social systems, nor any blurring of their fundamental differences. In view of certain speeches, such as that of Mr Eppler in the

Bundestag, it is also necessary to clarify that it can only be harmful to the disarmament and security policy if all that is offered are old theories of rolling back socialism that are left over from the Cold War period and presented in new packaging.

The meeting between Comrade Egon Krenz and Oskar Lafontaine, deputy SPD chairman and minister president of Saarland, as well as the talks that Guenther Mittag held in the FRG during his visit to the Hannover Fair, his meetings with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Economics Minister Haussmann, the chairman of the Free Democratic Party, Otto Graf Lambsdorff, and Oskar Lafontaine served the normalization of relations between the GDR and FRG.

Policy of Good-Neighborliness With Berlin (West)

Contrary to repeated and purposeful attempts from the West to thrust Berlin (West) back into the stalemate of the cold war, a policy of good-neighborliness between the GDR and Berlin (West) is a fundamental part of our efforts for detente and peace, since this is an essential element in securing peace in central Europe. Therefore, it is significant that during the meeting between Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and Walter Momper, Member of the SPD Executive and chairman of the SPD in Berlin (West), in Schloss Niederschoenhausen on 19 June 1989 both sides concurred that the policy of peace and detente is the precondition for good-neighborly relations. On the basis of respect for the realities of the situation, it is the strict observance and full application of the Four-Power-Agreement and the willingness to negotiate, predictability, mutual trust, and reliability that are the yardsticks of a new quality in mutual relations. Correspondingly, as a result of the meeting and in the interest of both sides, a whole series of clearly future-oriented steps were agreed in the fields of the economy, environmental protection, culture, science, and tourist and local traffic.

In the meantime, Walter Momper has paid great tribute to the contents, results, and course of the talk. He said that the whole atmosphere of the talk was excellent. The significant results of the meeting are an important success for the Senat and, not least, also the fruit of the many years of talks between the West Berlin SPD and the SED.

Firm Solidarity With All Forces of Peace and Progress

Comrades, in the past few months, in accordance with the resolutions of the 11th Party Congress to strengthen the solidarity with the international communist and workers movement and with all progressive and peace-loving forces of the world, the SED also took various steps to further develop the dialogue and cooperation with communist, socialist, and social democratic parties. Our solidarity is meant for all forces which advocate democratic alternatives to the course of the conservative forces of monopoly capitalism in the interest of the working people, and which actively pursue social progress and peace. The SED stands firmly at the side of the fraternal parties that are forced to struggle underground. It is allied to solidarity with the political prisoners and all patriots and democrats in Chile, South Africa, Paraguay, Turkey, Iran, and other countries.

The exchange of opinions and experiences with Communists and social democrats focused on common interests and cooperation in the struggle to secure peace and for disarmament. Here the highlights were Erich Honecker's talks with Ole Sohn, chairman of the Communist Party of Denmark, and Rene Urbany, chairman of the Communist Party of Luxembourg.

During mutual visits by delegations, comrades of the Politburo met with representatives of the Greek Communist Party, the Portuguese Communist Party, the French Communist Party, the Communist Party of Japan, and the Finnish Communist Party.

During the party congresses of the German Communist Party, the Portuguese Communist Party, the Italian Communist Party, the Belgian Communist Party, the Communist Workers Party of Sweden, the Unification Congress of the Spanish Communists, the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Communist Party of Uruguay, the Communist Party of Colombia, and the Dominican Communist Party, the SED delegations met and exchanged opinions with leading representatives of these parties. The talks affirmed the determination to actively promote cooperation between Communists and all forces that are interested in peace, irrespective of existing political and ideological differences.

The colloquium on the effects of the scientific-technological revolution in socialism and capitalism that was held by our party with representatives of the French fraternal party in Berlin in February, as well as other contacts with representatives of fraternal parties of capitalist states, affirmed the great interest in concrete information on the way in which socialism is built in the GDR.

Questions of building socialism and the joint responsibility for securing peace are also in the foreground of the dialogue with socialist and social democratic parties. This was shown at the fourth roundtable conference which was organized by the SED in Berlin in February and in which the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, the Social Democratic Party of Denmark, the Flemish Socialist Party of Belgium, and the Netherlands Labor Party participated, as well as by the exchange of ideas with representatives of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, the Luxembourg Socialist Workers Party, the Japanese Socialist Party, the Italian Socialist Party, and the French Socialist Party. Official relations were established with the Portuguese Socialist Party, and thus the SED entertains relations with all West European parties of the Socialist International.

Our party is attentively following the programmatic discussions and reflections as expressed in the "1989 Election Manifesto" adopted at the 16th Congress of the "Alliance of Socialist and Social Democratic EC Parties" in Brussels in February, at the conference of Socialist International party leaders in March, and at the Congress of the Socialist International.

Solidarity and Support for Developing Countries and Liberation Movements

Comrades, safeguarding peace, steps to settle regional conflicts peacefully, the struggle for social progress, and the democratization of international economic relations were the subject of the exchange of views and experiences with leading politicians, as well as with representatives of parties of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The GDR lets itself be guided by the premise that overcoming the developing countries' problems of backwardness, poverty, and hunger, the foreign debts that have risen to more than $1.3 billion, and the settling of regional conflicts are gaining increasing importance for safeguarding peace and security and for the overall development of these countries. We are in favor of a businesslike discussion of the constructive proposals of the USSR, Cuba, and other states for the global and just settlement of the debt crisis and welcome the intensified efforts by many states in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, which they make to improve their situation and to peacefully settle regional conflicts.

Based on this principled consideration, the GDR welcomes the initiation of the independence of Namibia on the basis of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78. It has stated its readiness to participate in the UN transition assistance group, UNTAG, and to help in returning Namibian refugees to their homeland. In this decisive phase of the struggle for independence we will continue our solidarity and support for the Namibian people.

Comrades, the insight is increasingly gaining ground that an international Middle East conference under the aegis of the United Nations, in which all sides affected, including Israel and the PLO, and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council participate, is the most appropriate way to come to a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement of the long-standing conflict in this region. The popular uprising in the occupied territories, which has been going on since December 1987, proves that even after more than 20 years of occupation the Palestinian people's will for freedom and peace is unbroken and that the Israeli policy of force is unsuccessful. During the friendly meetings in Berlin with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Comrade Erich Honecker gave the assurance that the GDR will continue its solidarity and support for the struggle of the Palestinian people.

The GDR welcomes the steadfast work of the USSR and the Republic of Afghanistan to peacefully settle the conflict situation involving Afghanistan on the basis of the Geneva agreement of April 1988. We are, however, concerned about the fact that not all sides are fulfilling the obligations accepted by them. Our solidarity and support goes to the Republic of Afghanistan and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and to their proposals to form a government on the broadest possible basis and to hold an international Afghanistan conference under the aegis of the United Nations.

New stimuli were provided to the peace process in Central America by the meeting of the presidents of the region's countries in San Salvador in February. The GDR sees the documents of the Central American summits as constructive steps that are based on reason and realism, and show feasible ways to bring about a stable and lasting peace in the region. Governments all over the world and the international public expect the United States to respect the "Latin American solution," which does not permit any outside interference.

In talks with the members of the National Directorate of Nicaragua's Sandinist National Liberation Front and other leading representatives of the country, comrades of the Politburo paid tribute to the sacrificial struggle of the Nicaraguan people to defend their national sovereignty and revolutionary achievements. They gave assurances that the SED and the GDR people will continue to stand at Nicaragua's side in firm friendship and active solidarity.

The GDR welcomes further progress in the peaceful solution of the Cambodia problem, which will emerge as a result of the informal meeting of the parties involved and, in particular, thanks to the flexible and constructive positions of the leaderships of Cambodia and Vietnam.

Our party is following with attention and great sympathy the struggle of the Latin American working people for democracy, social progress, and the alleviation of the consequences of the heavy foreign indebtedness. In a talk with Volodia Teitelboim and Hugo Fazio, Comrade Erich Honecker renewed the GDR's firm solidarity and support for the struggle of the Chilean working people for the restoration of democracy and progress in Chile. On this occasion and also during his meeting with Clodomiro Almeyda, general secretary of the Socialist Party of Chile, the general secretary of the SED Central Committee praised the Chilean socialists' courage and steadfastness, and the selfless struggle of all democrats in Chile.

Talks conducted by comrades of the Politburo with leading representatives of a number of communist, revolutionary-democratic, and socialist parties in Latin America, Asia, and Africa served to further deepen the friendly relations between the SED and these parties.

The 10th Regional Conference of the UNESCO Commission took place in Berlin in April. On behalf of Erich Honecker, Comrade Egon Krenz received Federico Mayor Zaragoza, director general of UNESCO, on this occasion. In the talk it was underlined that the GDR will continue to support UNESCO's efforts to establish itself as a center of understanding between the peoples. A memorandum was signed between the GDR and UNESCO which contains agreements on further cooperation between the GDR and the largest UN special agency.

The GDR League for Friendship Among Peoples held an extraordinary general assembly which centered on the work in the 40th year of the existence of the GDR. Numerous foreign representatives of national friendship societies of all regions praised the consistent peace policy and the successful development of the first socialist state on German soil. The worldwide interest in our Republic's domestic and foreign policies and in its 40 years of history are reflected in the numerous events that have been organized by friends of the GDR all over the world.

High Economic Output for the Benefit of the People and for Peace

Comprehensive Popular Movement in Preparation of the 12th SED Congress

Dear comrades, in our main field of struggle, which is the unity of economic and social policy as the heart of the economic strategy, the activity of the Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat has aimed at successfully implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and thus preparing the 12th SED Congress in a dignified manner. The fundamental guidelines that Erich Honecker provided in his programmatic speech at the seventh meeting of the Central Committee have been the yardstick for these actions.

The Politburo is able to note that, on the basis of the ideas that were presented at the seventh meeting of the Central Committee, and which were aimed at the well-being of the people and at peace, a great popular movement in preparation of the 12th SED Congress has developed in the 40th year of the founding of the GDR. This movement is supported by the fact that other citizens of our country have realized that high economic output is a decisive condition for successfully continuing the course of unity between economic and social policy. Thus, everywhere the initiatives of socialist competition have been characterized in the cities and villages by attempts to increase one's own contribution for the highest possible available national income and by attempts to comprehensively fulfill and overfulfill in a product-related way the 1989 national economy plan month after month, and on every single working day. To provide good supplies for the citizens and the national economy, and to solve the tasks in the export sector what matters is to achieve high productivity, efficiency, and quality, accompanied by decreasing costs, as well as contract-related production with regard to quantity, the range of products, quality, and value.

The seminar of the SED Central Committee and the director generals of the combines and party organizations of the Central Committee in Leipzig in March was organized along these lines. In a creative atmosphere, the participants showed their firm determination to prepare the 12th SED Congress with a high-level performance and attain results in honor of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR, results that are already visible. On behalf of the more than 3 million working people in the combines of industry, the construction sector, and the transport and communications sector, clear pledges were made in a letter to Comrade Erich Honecker. The Politburo appreciates very much the fact that the 1989 plan will be overfulfilled with the production of goods to the tune of M2.3 billion. This also refers to the duty to return to the state energy sources and raw materials worth M530 million as a contribution to the national income.

The objectives and challenges of the "GDR 40 FDJ Pledge" are impressive. It includes projects such as streamlining measures and thus using 16,500 people in other jobs, and making a profit of M3 million by a more efficient use of materials and energy. A total of 510,000 tonnes of scrap are to be collected. Moreover, the Free German Youth has set itself the task of collecting 100,000 tonnes of additional scrap by the 40th anniversary of the GDR under the motto of "Max [as published] needs scrap—we supply an additional 100,000 tonnes." Under the FDJ "rebuild and expand" drive an additional 25,000 apartments were finished this year.

Everywhere in our country the members of the FDJ, together with all young people and the trade unions, are making great achievements in socialist competition to attain the objectives of and overfulfill the 1989 plan of the national economy. The "FDJ party congress projects," which have been adopted in the bezirke and kreise, are of particular value. These projects are mainly implemented by the FDJ collectives of young researchers, who are thus contributing to the development and application of modern key technologies on a wider scale. On the occasion of the great FDJ Whitsun meeting in our capital, we could already consider a considerable share of the annual targets fulfilled in line with the economic initiatives.

The elections to the basic organizations of the trade unions have also been proof of our further progress. These elections were a great declaration of trust in our party's policy, and a demonstration of unity between the party and the people. Between the end of February and

22 April, as a result of the debates in 351,702 trade union groups, 25,403 departmental trade union organizations, and 50,440 enterprise, school, and local trade union organizations, more than 2.6 million trade unionists were elected as trade union officials and as shop stewards, officials for cultural matters and job protection, social representatives, and sports organizers. It is encouraging to see that once again many women and girls gained the support of their trade union collectives. A total of 1.4 million of the 5.1 million female trade union members were elected as trade union officials. Thus, 55 percent of all functionaries are women and girls. Some 2.1 million trade union members participated in the open and creative discussion. The more than 678,000 proposals that were made by trade union members are proof of the militant strength of the trade union basic organizations and of the mobilizing effect of the unity between economic and social policy. These proposals are primarily aimed at accelerating the increase in economic performance, comprehensively fulfilling and purposefully overfulfilling the 1989 national economy plan and, at the same time, continually improving the working and living conditions, as well as intellectual-cultural life. There were also justified critical and at the same time constructive recommendations on how to eliminate deficiencies, particularly in the field of reducing work impediments, and supplies to shift workers and workers in general.

What matters now is to conscientiously examine these proposals, criticism, and recommendations, and initiate the necessary changes. Everywhere the working people have to know what one has to do, what one can do, and what is not yet possible. To listen to what people say, to include them in the decisionmaking process in a responsible way and in time, to struggle for our political, economic, social, and intellectual-cultural objectives—all this is an indispensable demand on all leading figures in the state and the economy, and on the work of all party and trade union leaderships. Here, too, everybody has to increase his own efforts to increase the performance of the national economy before he can make demands on others.

The elections showed that in the GDR, on the soil of socialism, the trade unions are constructive partners who participate actively in the exercise of power in the worker-peasant state. Their word carries great weight in our state. Our party's Central Committee underlines that the trade unions enjoy high authority and great respect in the GDR. They have only one objective, namely the well-being of the people and peace. This is why we fully support them, and this is why we promote all their activities and the perseverence in their daily work, with which the trade union members, together with the officials that are democratically elected by them, advance our common cause, namely the shaping of the developed socialist society.

Dear comrades, the pledges initiated by the Karl-Marx-Stadt Bezirk party organization for the additional production of high-quality consumer goods that are in great demand among the population are of great importance. In this bezirk alone, additional production worth M300 million is involved. Following this example, all bezirks have accepted such pledges. In total this involves consumer goods worth M2.2 billion, which are to be produced in excess of the 1989 plan.

These and other pledges and labor feats affirm the statement by Comrade Erich Honecker at the seventh Central Committee session that the GDR working people have made our party's policy a matter for their own selves, in line with the concurrence of word and deed. Our party has a firm place in the heart of the citizens of our socialist fatherland. This is because the supreme principle of the SED's actions rests on the welfare and happiness of the people in peace, because it feels responsible for everything that goes on in our country. This is also because over more than 4 decades we have made the slogan "Everything with the people, everything through the people, everything for the people" the guideline of our actions.

In line with a joint decision of the SED Central Committee, the GDR State Council, the GDR Council of Ministers, and the National Executive Council of the Free German Trade Union Federation [FDGB], outstanding performances in the competition are to be honored on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR with the awarding of 250 honorary banners. These awards go to enterprises, cooperatives, institutions, and installations from industry; the transportation, telecommunications, and construction sectors; trade; agriculture; forestry; and the foodstuffs industry; science; culture; public education; the health sector; as well as to troop units and units of the armed organs. We are certain that this decision will provide further stimuli for high performances.

Positive Overall Balance Sheet in Fulfilling This Year's National Economic Plan

Comrades, during the period under review the Politburo regularly dealt with the fulfillment of the tasks of the 1989 national economic plan. All necessary measures were taken to ensure dynamic and stable economic growth in the future. The Council of Ministers was ordered to implement the decided measures.

The Politburo stresses that, thanks to the varied initiatives in the socialist competition and the prudent utilization of all 10 focal issues of our economic strategy, a good start to the plan was achieved. On the path toward the 12th SED Congress, the achievements were expanded month by month. A considerable plan lead was achieved in important areas.

By the end of May, the produced national income rose by 4 percent. This growth, which is necessary for the policy of the main task, is again completely based on increased labor productivity. The fact that the rising production and labor productivity again go hand in hand with the declining unit input in production, which was reduced by 1.2 percent, is also of fundamental importance.

The net output of industry rose by 4.6 percent, which again provided the largest share in the growth of the national income. In the construction sector the net output increased by 3.8 percent, in agriculture and forestry by 1.4 percent, and in the transportation, posts, and telecommunications sector by 0.8 percent.

The performances of the industrial combines are decisive for the positive overall national economic result. Thus, net production and labor productivity in the sphere of the industrial ministries each rose by 6 percent. Costs were reduced by 1.2 percent. Additional profit worth M712 million was achieved in excess of the plan. Despite all this progress, we do not overlook the fact that there are still some unjustified differences among the combines and enterprises.

The combines which reliably fulfill all the main targets of performance assessment and the production tasks for the state plan positions include the Senftenberg Brown Coal Combine, the Brandenburg High-Quality and Special Steel Combine, the Fuerstenwalde Tire Combine, the Leipzig Baukema Combine, the Dresden Ventilation and Refrigeration Technology Combine, the Stassfurt Radio and Television Combine, the Berlin "7 October" Machine Tool Combine, and the Ilmenau Technical Glass Combine.

On the other hand, there are some combines and enterprises which above all permitted the planned costs to be exceeded and which did not achieve the planned profit. In line with the tasks set by the seventh Central Committee session, it is necessary to ensure in every enterprise the unity of increasing production, labor productivity, and quality alongside declining costs and increasing profit. The path toward this is indicated by our tested economic strategy, in particular by the increasingly efficient linking of science and production and the broad application of the key technologies, in particular microelectronics. The work to raise socialist business administration to a higher level is also to be continued with determination.

In industrial goods production, a growth of 4.2 percent and a plan lead of M1.4 billion was achieved in industry by the end of May. Progress has been made in the task stressed at the seventh Central Committee session to conscientiously implement the plan in all state plan positions. By the end of May the plan tasks had been fulfilled and partly overfulfilled in 349 state plan positions. In another 34 positions, however, greater efforts are necessary to eliminate backlogs within a short period. This applies to goods such as outerwear for boys, roll bearings, vacuum technology products, industrial insulation, spare parts for agricultural machinery, and bottles for foodstuffs. The responsible ministers and directors general were ordered by the Politburo to establish all conditions so that production in line with the contracts and with the required quantities, ranges, quality, and value is ensured in every combine day by day, and 10-day period by 10-day period. The ideopolitical work and party control of the bezirk and kreis leaderships of our party and of the individual party organizations is to be much more intensively directed toward this. Mobilizing reserves also requires the purposeful continuation of the initiatives in the socialist competition for the return of funds to the state. As a contribution to the national income, the combines of industry, the construction and transportation sector, and the bezirk councils returned a total of M389 million in energy sources, raw materials, material and financial funds directly to the state by the end of May. This includes 47,831 megawatt hours of electricity, 90,191 tonnes of raw brown coal, 9,352 tonnes of brown coal briquettes, 35,321 tonnes of heating oil, 10,600 tonnes of raw iron and raw steel, as well as roller bearings worth M7.6 million.

Many results in other sectors of the national economy also contributed to the national economic performance increase. In the construction sector the building production plan was 100.9 fulfilled percent by the end of May. A plan lead of M99 million was achieved. Net production rose by 4.6 percent and labor productivity by 5.1 percent. The tasks of reducing costs were not completely fulfilled. This was particularly caused by the construction and assembly combines of Halle Chemistry, Frankfurt (Oder) Ost; Hoyerswerda Coal and Energy; the Dessau Cement Combine; and the Halle Building and Ordinary Ceramics Combine. This also applies to the locally administered construction sector in the capital city of Berlin. The Council of Ministers was ordered to eliminate sources of loss in the construction sector, in particular concerning material input and the utilization of work time, through comparative performance appraisals and cost analyses. All experiences show that careful design and construction preparation as well as speedy construction at the individual construction sites are decisive in this respect. Corresponding to the decisions of the seventh Central Committee session, in all sectors of our national economy it is important to pay even greater attention to the principles of economic management of the socialist state, such as the reduction of costs, rationalization, simplification of administrative matters, as well as the strict implementation of the thrift principle.

The transportation sector fulfilled the transportation demands of the national economy. The network of electrified railroad tracks was expanded by adding the lines of Zuessow-Wolgast, Eilenburg-Mockrehna-Falkenberg, and Stralsund-Sassnitz/Mukran/Binz. Further repairs to railroad lines were carried out according to plan.

By the end of May, the posts and telecommunications sector had fulfilled the planned performances 100.4 percent. The telephone and teletype sector registered a 2.4-percent increase.

Great Efforts to Overcome the Consequences of the Rock Burst in the Werra Area

Dear comrades, the rock burst in the Werra area, which was caused by the pressurized pumping of effluents from FRG potash mines on 13 March 1989, led to considerable damage to citizens' personal property and to our country's national economy. In several towns in Bad Salzungen Kreis, in particular in Voelkershausen, a large number of homes, public buildings, and public facilities were destroyed or heavily damaged. About one-third of the production capacity of the state-owned "Werra" Potash Enterprise was destroyed. The working people of the enterprise were not in danger. The strict adherence to the safety regulations was decisive for this.

The rock burst resulted in great consternation and sympathy on the part of the citizens of the GDR and gave rise to broad action and solidarity. The Politburo immediately set out all the necessary measures to normalize life and reconstruct the destroyed homes and facilities. Help was and is being given to every one of the citizens affected.

The Central Committee most cordially thanks and commends the construction workers, members of the National People's Army, the border troops, the Civil Defense, the Voluntary Fire Brigade, the People's Police, as well as craftsmen and all other citizens who participated in removing the consequences of the rock burst with great energy. This also applies to the working people of the "Werra" Potash Enterprise, who are doing great work under the leadership of their battle-tested party organization to raise production step by step.

As was expressed in the aide-memoire which was presented to the FRG in March, the SED Central Committee stresses the demand to immediately halt the presurezed pumping of effluents at the FRG potash works.

Comrades, in accordance with the unity of economic and social policy, the increasing economic capacity of the GDR economy made it possible to ensure the people's material and cultural standard of living and to further raise it according to plan.

High-level Performances Facilitated Further Social Progress

As the core of our party's social policy, the housing program continued to be speedily implemented. This year 82,490 apartments had been built or modernized by the end of May. In this process, a plan lead of 5,790 apartments was achieved. Thus, living conditions improved for another 247,000 citizens.

For the preservation of the building stock, it is important that the plan for building repairs to apartment houses was fulfilled 102.7 percent. It is also very important that the targets concerning communal facilities were generally fulfilled: 2,363 places in nurseries; 6,366 places in kindergarten; 500 classrooms, 29 school gymnasiums; and 1,048 places in old-people's homes and nursing homes were completed.

It is still necessary for the party and state organs in the bezirks, kreises, towns, and villages to pay particular attention to construction work. This is all the more necessary because the positive overall results sometimes hide plan backlogs. In the new construction of apartments this applies, for instance, to the kreise of Rudolstadt, Werdau, Grossenhain, Schmoelln, and Neuruppin. Concerning communal facilities, this applies to Rostock bezirk for places in nurseries and kindergartens, and to the bezirks of Gera, Neubrandenburg, and Suhl for school gymnasiums. Concerning building repairs, the kreises of Dresden-Stadt, Magdeburg, Dessau, Halberstadt, Rostock-Stadt, and Poessneck as well as some other kreises, cities, and city districts have plan backlogs.

The Central Committee Secretariat had decided on measures to develop the available housing stock. They are aimed at utilizing the available housing stock to the maximum extent to supply the population with housing room. In improving the citizens' living conditions, it is necessary to ensure the full effectiveness of the considerable national economic expenditures and efforts in our country. Therefore, it is necessary to specifically check matters in every kreis with great responsibility and to take measures to avoid the intentional discarding of apartments through preservation and reconstruction measures. Furthermore, it is necessary to make apartments that are available, but that cannot be used temporarily, re-usable for housing purposes. This requires greater efforts in all kreises, cities, and city districts. In this connection, the comprehensive application of the experiences gained in Plauen, Schwarzenberg, and Frankfurt (Oder) has to be given even greater attention. The local councils there know in an exemplary way how to purposefully solve the still existing housing problems through good management of the available housing space, the mobilization of further initiatives by enterprises to repair apartments that are difficult to rent or that have been closed by the building authorities, and through a prudent housing policy that is oriented toward the citizens.

Responsibly fulfilling these tasks is inseparably linked with ensuring the unity of housing construction, housing management, and the allocation of housing space everywhere and to make the local policy, which is oriented toward the citizens, even more efficient in this field.

The principle of giving the working people a material interest in high-level labor feats was consistently further implemented during the period under review. Rising labor productivity went hand in hand with wage raises. Within the plan, this year a bonus payment to stimulate performance gradually became effective for 550,000 working people in additional enterprises. With this we are continuing the tested path of directly linking higher wages with the plan and the rising labor productivity and efficiency.

By the end of May, the personal disposable income of the population had risen by 3 percent in total. Retail trade turnover increased by 4 percent during the same period. The turnover of industrial goods increased by 6.8 percent, in line with the rising demand of the population.

The hopes expressed by the GDR citizens in connection with the preparation for our 12th SED Congress, namely that the continuation of the course of the unity of economic and social policy will be affirmed at this 12th congress, are fully confirmed by us. Concerning the retirement age for men and women, no changes whatsoever are envisaged in this connection. Of course—as to date—working people who have reached the retirement age of 60 or 65 years may continue to work as long as they want, if their health permits. If they continue to work beyond retirement age, they receive both their pension and the wage due to them because of their work.

Supplies of staple goods to the population were reliably ensured. Producing dairy products, bakery goods, beverages, vegetables, fruit, and other goods near the consumer and bringing them to the shops by the shortest and direct route has repeatedly proved to be advantageous for the consumer and the national economy.

Good Plan Fulfillment Must Be Felt in Supplies to the Population

At the local elections in particular, it again became clear that questions of supply have a great influence on the life of the people in every village, every town, and every residential area. In view of the scope and variety of the tasks that have to be solved, it is absolutely necessary to unreservedly enforce responsibility for supplies in all regions, in particular in the kreises.

The varied possibilities established by the law on the local elected assemblies were better used in many places in the spirit of a local policy that is oriented toward the citizens, in order to find long-term solutions in the region for supplies, trade, services, production of fresh goods, and local consumer goods production, which can be positively felt and seen by the citizens when they go shopping every day.

In most regions, basic supplies are organized with great reliability and continuity day by day. By establishing new and modernizing available trading facilities, shopping conditions were further improved in many towns and villages. At the same time, justified criticism during the election movement and the existing large regional differences indicate that the given possibilities and the considerable reserves are not comprehensively exploited everywhere. This applies in particular to the development of production and the supply of vegetables, fruit, and other fresh goods. Here, too, solutions can be found only through one's own higher performance and through better observing one's own responsibility.

The people's interest in buying fashionable and attractive clothes and high-quality industrial goods has continued to increase considerably. Thus, the turnover of shoes and leather goods rose by 5.6 percent; that of furniture, fancy goods, and sports articles by 7.6 percent; that of technical equipment and vehicles by 15.2 percent; that of household chemistry by 5.4 percent; that of fabrics, ready-made clothes, hosiery, and knitted goods by 2.8 percent; and that of durable and expendable household goods by 4.6 percent.

These and other remarkable growth rates were possible because the combines of all sectors of the national economy had sold finished goods for the population worth M46 billion by the end of May. This is M1.3 billion more than envisaged by the plan. In this connection, in accordance with our party's economic strategy, the payoff is that more consumer goods that are in high demand are produced with high quality, in larger numbers, and in line with the contracts, for supplies to the population and for export.

As a result of the analysis of the implementation of the plan, the Politburo has aimed to intensify the efforts to reliably fulfill the contracts and reduce existing supply backlogs within a short time. Every combine and every enterprise only meets its responsibility fully if products that are in demand are immediately developed, produced, and provided in sufficient quantities and with good quality to supply the population and for export.

The close cooperation between the sectors of production and trade, the partnership in the cooperation in the whole chain from the producer to the salesman at the counter, turns out to be decisive for perceptible progress in supplies. The establishment of direct relations between industrial combines and enterprises and department stores or local producers with major sales facilities is standing the test. Its development should be further intensified where the respective conditions are given. For the national economy and the combines, as well as for the industrial and commercial enterprises, these direct movements of goods are more economical and time-saving and lead to better economic results.

In this context, the Politburo is directing the attention of the directors general and leading economic functionaries to a high level of discipline in the fulfillment of the planned tasks in line with the required ranges as regards everyday essentials as well as high-quality products. This includes high-quality supplies at any time to avoid complaints, as well as the reliable provision of replacement parts. Every works manager and director general of a combine and every party organization has to be guided by this: Only if all aspects of supply are carefully and thoroughly taken into account will the citizens also notice the good plan fulfillment in everyday life. This is a high and, at the same time, unrenouncable demand on every individual producer, as well as on every commercial enterprise in everyday work. The situation in this field should be examined in every enterprise and kreis, and it should be considered how one's own capacity can be even more effectively developed.

By the end of May, the state-owned enterprises of the local supply economy had achieved a 4.6-percent increase in the field of services and repairs for the population. High growth-rates were reached in services that are sought after, for example, 6 percent in upholstered furniture repairs and 9 percent in shoe repairs. Various initiatives were developed in the bezirks, in accordance with the Erfurt motto "Always at Your Service." The Politburo highly appreciates all these efforts and the commitments undertaken to supply additional services valued at M240 million, compared to last year. The full use of the wide scope for decisions of the local state power authorities for this purpose constitutes an important reserve. This concerns the opening hours of the shops and restaurants, as well as the development of a network of sales facilities, customer-oriented services and repairs, and the wise use of the various activities of cooperative and private crafts.

The fact that during a long period we always developed the whole variety of the retail trade and gastronomy, and that the state-owned commercial enterprises, the consumer cooperatives, and the private merchants, innkeepers, and craftsmen are jointly fulfilling important tasks in the supply of the population shows the continuity and purposefulness of our party's policy. Precisely in this context, the decisions taken by the Politburo and the measures defined by the government to further promote private businesses and restaurants continue to be topical. They are being purposefully implemented, although the speed differs in the various regions.

The share of private trade in the solution of supply tasks has increased. By reopening closed or misused businesses and handing over smaller elements of socialist trade, the number of private merchants has further increased. At present, as many as 20 percent of all restaurants are privately run. They are mostly small concerns, which are effectively managed as so-called family enterprises.

Implementing Top Achievements in Science and Technology in an Economically Productive Way

Comrades: Measures and definitions as regards high economic efficiency in science and technology took up an important part of the deliberations of the Politburo. Our party's struggle for ever new, higher targets in science and technology and their wide economic application is governed by the knowledge that the rate and development of the productive forces determine the decisions on the economic and political positions of socialism in the GDR and its social opportunities. In preparation for the 12th Party Congress, it is thus imperative to further increase speed, above all in scientific-technological top performances, in order to use the possibilities of high and key technologies—especially microelectronics—in an increasingly efficient way to raise labor productivity, increase quality, and reduce the production input and costs.

Starting on this basis, the Politburo decided to select 110 decisive tasks of the Science and Technology State Plan which are to become effective in production in 1989 in honor of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR, with top standards being set for economic efficiency. This includes 13 tasks which are to be implemented by the youth research collectives in the "FDJ Call GDR 40."

Work will be especially concentrated on further accelerating the development, production, and wide use of microelectronics according to its important role in determining the structure of the GDR economy and creating the necessary prerequisites for it. For example, the collectives of the Dresden Ventilation and Refrigeration Technology Combine want to hand over the first GDR clean room of the class one clean-room type to the Carl Zeiss Jena Combine for the production of 4-megabit memory circuits. Compared to the former targets, this means a time gain of 2 years. With this achievement, another Western embargo will be broken. At an increased pace, the first ICA 700 industrial computer of the GDR was developed and put into production in the Automation Plant Construction Combine. Thus, completely new solutions for the direct connection of processes for the preparation and control of production were created, and new fields of activity for the effective use of microelectronics were opened up. At the Leipzig Spring Fair, the combination of this industrial computer with machining centers, and the way in which the users can benefit from this were impressively demonstrated. Before the end of 1989, 400 industrial computers will be provided for wide use in production.

The creation of a computer-integrated manufacturing concept in the parent enterprise of the "Fritz Hecker" Machine Tool Combine is exemplary. Using standardized complex component part solutions for flexible automated production, it will thus become possible to comply with special customer's wishes more quickly. This includes the FMS 630 machine system, which was awarded a gold medal at the fair. The first use of this future-oriented flexible automation technology will result in a six-fold production increase in the parent enterprise of the combine.

In the Boizenburg plant of the Tiles and Sanitary Ceramics Combine, an automated assembly line for the production of wall tiles will be created. Thus, labor productivity can be increased more than 220 percent. Specific energy consumption will be reduced 46 percent, and costs will decrease by 19 percent.

All these examples show the variety of our opportunities to now reach a qualitatively higher stage of development in the field of microelectronics on the basis of significant previous achievements and to produce new generations of high-powered computers, automation technology, and consumer goods.

It is very important for the generally effective implementation of key technologies, especially microelectronics, that the tasks of the plan be fulfilled without any cuts and with high growth-rates. For example, compared to last year, by the end of May the production of semiconductor elements and electronic component parts had increased 25.4 percent, with the production of monolithic-integrated circuits increasing by 38 percent. By the end of May, 25,877 computers from our own production had been provided to the national economy this year. Production of industrial robots was also further accelerated. By the end of May, 6,500 industrial robots had been produced in the industrial ministries' sphere of responsibility. This corresponds to a 9-percent increase, compared to the same period last year. Thus, the material-technical basis for the comprehensive modernization the production facilities and for socialist rationalization was again considerably expanded.

In the period under review, the Politburo discussed experiences and consequences in developing economic relations between industrial combines and the institutions of the Academy of Sciences and universities. What has been achieved so far testifies to the strength of cooperation between science and production as an indispensable basis for further economic and social progress.

It has proven useful to organize cooperation on the basis of specific proposals with the exact stipulation of the obligations of both sides, including the economic consequences. In this way, the basic research of the scientific institutions will be oriented to a greater extent toward the decisive social needs, and the work of the combines will be directed toward future-oriented goals. Currently, we have about 315 coordination treaties with long-term agreements for cooperation in the main spheres of science and technology, as well as for securing the fulfillment of the tasks in material terms and in terms of cadres. They constitute the framework for about 3,200 performance agreements, with exact targets for the scientific-technological and economic results that have to be achieved, including the conditions for their realization, as well as with exact targets for their payment.

The Politburo assessed that direct cooperation between the combines and scientific institutions in decisive spheres makes it possible to gain time, thus making it possible to use high-level performances more quickly in the country's national economy. In the fulfillment of the comprehensive scientific-technological and economic tasks, joint activities by research and development collectives from basic research to the development of new products and technologies and their application in production has proven particularly successful. What is important now is to concentrate research cooperation on the basis of coordinated strategies on such targets that lead to a fundamental renewal of our national economy, and which are of a top-level international standard at the time when they become effective in the market, and which can be used in an economically advantageous way.

It must also be stressed that research cooperation contributes increasingly to ensuring the practice-oriented education and training of students and young scientists, as well as to their employment at workplaces that correspond to their training, and to providing high-level advanced training.

In the further development of research cooperation, it is now important to utilize the possibilities of modern science even more purposefully and in a way that leads to a higher economic yield. What is needed are exact stipulations concerning cooperation between the research and development potentials on the basis of labor division, including the provision of material-technological and financial resources until the results are applied in production. Contractual cooperation is to be concentrated on spheres that are decisive for further increasing performance, thus creating the basic preconditions for vigorous growth in the GDR's national economy.

Increasing the Accumulative Strength of the Producing Spheres—Tasks of Greatest Economic Priority

Comrades, in accordance with the basic guidelines set out by Comrade Erich Honecker at the seventh Central Committee session concerning increased accumulation in the production spheres, investment activity was given broad attention by the Politburo. It can be stated that efforts in this sphere, which is so decisive for our current and future economic growth, have generally increased. The growth of investments in the fields of industry, construction, transportation, posts and telecommunications, environmental protection and water management by a total of 7.2 percent by the end of May, with industry achieving a growth of 7.1 percent, testifies to this. On the basis of the analysis of the implementation of the plan in the sphere of investments, the Politburo aims at waging even more vigorously the struggle for the object-related fulfillment of the tasks of the investment plan. It is important to ensure the startup on the dates stipulated in the plan and to guarantee the production increase that was taken into account in the balance sheet.

In view of the great significance of the investments for the increase in the performance and efficiency stipulated in the plan, it is necessary for all responsible leaders to fully meet their obligations in preparing, carrying out, and starting up facilities according to plan, as well as in ensuring production from investments.

This applies particularly to the 287 projects of the state plan for investments, which was newly introduced in 1989. These projects, which are of importance for all branches of the national economy for the accelerated application of the key technologies, for an increase in the supply of subcontractor products, for safeguarding the energy and raw material basis, productng attractive consumer goods, and further strengthening our foreign trade positions, were fulfilled 106.3 percent by the end of May. Major facilities were put into operation according to schedule, including the 500-megawatt block in the Jaenschwalde power plant, production plants for thioplast in the Greiz-Doelau Chemical Works, and production facilities for solid-state circuits in the Semiconductor Works in Frankfurt (Oder). The Politburo expects all those responsible to give priority to the preparation and implementation of the projects of the state plan for investments in accordance with their significance for proportional development according to plan and the further shaping of an efficient structure of our national economy.

In the future, particular attention must be paid to the startup of the projects according to schedule and with the stipulated performances, especially since 80 percent of the production increase is achieved on the basis of investments. This underlines the importance of the realization of investments according to plan for a stable and dynamic increase in the performance of our national economy.

In all branches and regions, special efforts are to be directed toward the startup according to plan or, if possible, ahead of schedule of the 59 facilities which have been adopted on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the GDR. With the realization of these projects, significant economic results are to be achieved, aimed at increasing the distributable production of subcontractor products, consumer goods, and products for export.

The tasks adopted by the seventh Central Committee session that were aimed at embarking upon the path of socialist rationalization—that involves a much broader section of our national economy and which should lead to even higher economic results—and at shaping this process as an important field of active participation by the working people are being purposefully implemented throughout the whole country. The initiative to tackle a rationalization project in every enterprise on the occasion of the 12th SED Congress and to realize it up to the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR, which involves the entire national economy, testifies to this.

What we are aiming at is socialist rationalization, at bringing about technical and technological changes in the work processes, together with the people and for the people. We want to achieve an increase in labor productivity in order to ensure an increase in the people's standard of living, we want to improve working and living conditions without endangering people's jobs. This is the basis for the active participation of millions of working people in socialist rationalization and for the decision to implement a rationalization project in every enterprise, even the smallest one.

The fact that the rationalization projects are consistently aimed at utilizing the enterprises' own possibilities, without using additional state assets, has proven to be particularly valuable. Thus, additional performance reserves are tapped through increasingly comprehensive intensification, and the preconditions for the comprehensive fulfillment and purposeful overfulfillment of the performance targets of the plan are created with relatively low expenditure. These initiatives are an important contribution to increasing the disposable national income and the distributable final product.

Principle of Self-Financing Is Gradually Being Applied in an Increasingly Comprehensive Manner

Dear comrades, experiments concerning the principle of comprehensive self-financing for intensively extended reproduction were successfully continued in 16 combines. During the 1 and ½ years since the beginning of the tests it has become evident that a strong interest in obtaining a high profit is conducive to the comprehensive tapping of the enterprises' own reserves concerning an increase in performance and efficiency in the spirit of the economic strategy. Participation in every Mark of profit that has been achieved, with stable normative portions for the establishment of assets for intensively extended reproduction, stimulates the enterprises to make a considerable contribution to national income as a source of accumulation and further social progress. In this way, the proven principle of our party, which says that what is of use for the national economy must also be of advantage for the combines and enterprises, is being implemented even more consistently when applying the principle of comprehensive self-financing at the same time. Under these conditions, economic calculations are carried out more exactly in the 16 enterprises and the struggle for an improved relationship between expenditure and results is waged with more dedication.

One of the most important experiences of the experiment shows that the obligation to earn the funds for intensively extended reproduction on the basis of self-financing leads to an increased sense of responsibility for the comprehensive fulfillment of the plan targets. The decisive factor is the firm link between the plan and the principle of self-financing. It is turning out to be the most important element in increasing the combines' responsibility for the reliable fulfillment of the tasks to ensure supplies for the population and for the economy, and for the fulfillment of the export tasks on the basis of increasing efficiency.

As a result of the test, we have gained the insight that efforts to achieve a high profit today lead to a tangible growth of the interest in the efficient use of the means that have been earned through self-financing. Previously drafted research, development, and investment concepts are being reconsidered and calculations are being made as to whether they will meet the demands resulting from the principle of self-financing tomorrow as well. Demands with respect to the targets and results of scientific-technical work, including research cooperation with scientific institutions, and their application with a high economic yield are increasing.

The application of the principle of comprehensive self-financing for intensively extended reproduction has brought a considerable response among the working people of the 16 combines and its enterprises. They understand very well that they can only use what they have earned, and that their own work results are decisive for the leeway in the successful continuation of the unity of economic and social policy in general. This has triggered new initiatives in socialist competition, aimed at increasing the combines' own contribution to performance. These initiatives are supported by the improvement of proven methods of socialist management, such as the breakdown of the plan, performance comparison, and the keeping of cost accounting books.

On the basis of the positive experiences of the 16 combines, the Politburo has decided to incorporate another 40 combines, beginning with the drafting of the plan for 1990, into work based on the principle of self-financing. They include all combines of the Ministry for Electrical Engineering and Electronics and the Ministry for the Construction of Machine Tools and Processing Machinery. Also included will be centrally administered combines of industrial ministries, which have not been incorporated so far, combines from the Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, and Foodstuffs, and for the first time also bezirk-administered combines from the industry and the construction sector. By the end of the current 5-year plan, experiences in the application of the principle of self-financing will be available in all areas of material production. Step by step, this principle will be further developed as an integral part of the socialist planned economy in the unity of continuity and renewal, and will be applied increasingly comprehensively.

On Further Deepening Socialist Economic Integration

Comrades, in the period under review the Politburo paid special attention to questions concerning the further deepening of economic and scientific-technological cooperation with the USSR and other CEMA countries. Satisfaction was expressed at the fact that, in the implementation of the agreements concluded by Comrades Erich Honecker and Mikhail Gorbachev during their working meeting in the fall of last year and as an evaluation of the GDR exhibition in Moscow, extensive and fruitful work has been carried out by the ministers and general managers. At the center of this lies the fulfillment of tasks that determine the scientific-technological standards in strategically important spheres, such as development and application in the production of highly integrated circuits, of 32-bit microprocessor systems, digital communications technology, modern materials, automated production technologies, and other machine-building products that are decisive for productivity. This represents a specific program that is characterized by the firm resolution of both sides to deepen cooperation.

During talks in January between Comrade Guenter Mittag and Comrade Nikolay Siyunkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, it was agreed to consistently implement the outlined tasks step by step. This will be monitored by the parties.

The Politburo has accepted a report on the timetable for the coordination of the plans for the 1991-95 period with the USSR. It was stressed that this coordination with our main partner, with a view to the resolutions to be adopted by the 12th SED Congress for the stable development of the GDR's national economic during the next 5 years, is of fundamental importance. This applies particularly to the procurement of raw materials and the mutual supplies in the sphere of high technologies. The Politburo has decided to place special emphasis on the purposeful continuation of efforts to provide an attractive range of export goods, which corresponds to the needs of the USSR and the other trading partners of the GDR. The decisive yardsticks are efficiency and a strong increase in the national income.

The conviction was expressed that the coordination of the 1991-95 plans is an important contribution to implementing the "concept of economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and the USSR through the year 2000," which was signed by the chairmen of the two countries' planning organs in February. With this we have basic guidelines which reach far into the future for ever closer links between the national economies of the two countries, while taking into consideration the higher demands of the nineties.

The Politburo assessed the results of the 42d meeting of the Joint Government Committee for economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and the USSR, which took place in Moscow at the end of May, as an important event in further deepening cooperation between the GDR and the USSR. During this conference agreements were concluded and accords were signed in the field of microelectronics, modern medical technology, and environmental protection. Tasks in further shaping progressive forms of cooperation, in particular of direct relations, were discussed.

In accordance with the decisions of the seventh Central Committee session to pay continuous attention to the changes in the management and planning of the national economy in the USSR and the other CEMA countries, the Politburo discussed measures to fulfill the tasks of foreign trade between the GDR and the USSR. The responsible bodies of the Council of Ministers were ordered to ensure, on the basis of the transfer of far-reaching foreign trade functions to the enterprises and associations of the USSR, uniform action by all GDR state and economic organs that are involved in foreign trade relations and to further raise the efficiency of the work of our combines and foreign trade enterprises on the USSR market.

The Politburo dealt with reports on the meetings of the economics secretaries of the Central Committees of the fraternal parties of the CEMA member countries, which took place in Prague and Berlin. At these conferences an exchange of views was held on a number of topical questions of further deepening socialist economic integration. Experiences in fulfilling the tasks of the comprehensive CEMA program of scientific-technological progress and in applying the achieved results in production were exchanged.

The Politburo affirms our party's firm position to actively contribute to deepening cooperation in science and production with the CEMA member countries in the interest of strengthening socialism in every country and in the community as a whole. In this connection, it is important to further expand the tested forms of cooperation and, at the same time, to boldly embark upon new paths in solving the emerging tasks.

The Politburo dealt with the tasks for starting and carrying through negotiations on the conclusion of a trade agreement between the GDR and the EC. To observe the GDR's foreign trade interests, already now it is necessary to adjust uncompromisingly to the qualitatively higher requirements concerning the standards of scientific-technological performances and the quality of export goods. The Council of Ministers was ordered to set down the necessary stipulations for this.

The Politburo accepted information on the granting of GDR aid to developing countries in 1988. It was noted that GDR aid in 1988 amounted to a total of M2.2 billion. This corresponds to 0.82 percent of the national income. With this, the GDR granted comprehensive solidarity and support last year. It was mainly used for aid for the socioeconomic development of Afghanistan, Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the Mongolian People's Republic, the SRV, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Cambodia.

At present the GDR is participating in the construction of 66 projects in 27 developing countries, in particular in industry, agriculture, and in the transportation sector. The GDR provides much help by training cadres from developing countries and national liberation movements.

As an important economic and political event in the 40th year of the GDR, the 1989 Leipzig Spring Fair reflected the social strategy which has been creatively worked out and purposefully implemented under the leadership of the workers class and its party over 4 decades. At the same time, it demonstrated the historic dimension—which is recognized beyond the borders of the GDR—of the successfully implemented unity of economic and social policy and of the steady dynamism and stability as a result of the socialist planned economy.

During the visits, Comrade Erich Honecker and other members of the party and state leadership paid to the exhibition stands of 36 countries, the predictable policy that is steadfastly pursued by the GDR and is based on trust and understanding was highly appreciated. The official walkabout at the fair aroused great international attention and established a good political climate for business activities.

The Politburo regularly discussed the fulfillment of the foreign trade tasks. A general export surplus was achieved in GDR foreign trade. It is possible to report to the Central Committee that exports to the USSR are being met with great plan discipline. By the end of May, the planned exports to the USSR had been fulfilled 108 percent. Export tasks concerning the other socialist countries had also been generally fulfilled and overfulfilled. The Politburo directs the attention of the state managers and the party control on concentrating work even more intensively on the fulfillment of the export tasks according to contract, including ensuring the necessary subcontractor products within our country.

Leading the Successful Implementation of the 1989 National Economic Plan and Good Preparation of a Real and Demanding 1990 Plan as a Uniform Process

Comrades, in close connection with the struggle for the overall fulfillment and purposeful overfulfillment of the 1989 national economic plan, the Politburo paid great attention to preparing a real and demanding 1990 national economic and state budget plan. Work was aimed at continuing the course of the unity of economic and social policy and at successfully implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress through a high growth in economic performance and in line with the yardsticks set for this purpose by the seventh Central Committee session.

Proceeding from this, a decision was made on a "Joint directive of the SED Central Committee Politburo, the GDR Council of Ministers, and the FDGB National Executive Council for the working out and broad democratic discussion of the targets and tasks of the 1990 national economic plan with the working people." It contains all the basic tasks that now have to be fulfilled in the 40th year of the GDR's existence. Our economic strategy is a guideline for action and this also characterizes the joint directive.

At today's session, the Central Committee orders the Council of Ministers, all managers in every sector of the state and the national economy, the SED bezirk and kreis leaderships, and the party organizations, to establish, through qualified leadership activities, all conditions so that every citizen can do his best for the overall strengthening of the GDR. The successful implementation of the 1989 national economic plan and the good preparation of the 1990 plan are to be carried out as a uniform process. We place our full trust in the creativity and initiatives of our country's working people and we are certain that their proposals and ideas in the plan discussion are effectively contributing to the worthy preparation of the 40th anniversary of the GDR and the 12th SED Congress.

During the period under review, the Politburo set down further stipulations for working out the 5-year plan for the development of the GDR national economy in the 1991-95 period. They proceed from the premise of ensuring the future national economic development in the spirit of the unity of economic and social policy through dynamism, stability, increasing efficiency, and quality. In this we let ourselves be guided by the tested principle that the increasing economic capacity of our country is and remains the solid foundation for the rising standard of living, for social security, full employment, a high standard of education, and free health care.

Agricultural Tasks Overfulfilled

Dear comrades, during the period under review the cooperative peasants and workers in socialist agriculture, forestry, and the foodstuffs industry continued to work to implement the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and the 13th GDR Peasants' Congress with varied initiatives, great efforts, and important performances. In the socialist competition in honor of the 40th anniversary of our republic the work collectives have set themselves the goal of making a greater contribution to the overall strengthening of socialism in the GDR. In this spirit, after the seventh Central Committee session the party organizations in agriculture thoroughly analyzed the results of crop production in 1988 and drew conclusions for the stable fulfillment of the national economic plan for foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials.

As of 31 May, the plan of state procurement of animal products had been fulfilled and overfulfilled. In the foodstuffs industry the goods production sold to the population had been raised to 102.6 percent compared with the same period last year. Compared with last year, state procurement of eggs increased by 2.8 percent, that of milk by 3.2 percent, and that of slaughter animals by 1.4 percent. By the end of May forestry provided 4.6 million cubic meters of rough timber. Thus, the plan was exceeded. The cooperative peasants and workers are acting determinedly in line with the slogan "My workplace—my combat station for peace." With their performances, they are contributing to safeguarding the unity of economic and social policy and to strengthening socialism.

In livestock production the economical and efficient use of domestic and imported fodder, as well as the organization of mutual aid were particularly in the foreground. Since the seventh Central Committee session, it has been particularly important to work out exactly how the faster development of crop production can be ensured by mobilizing the cooperative peasants and workers, by an exact knowledge of the best experiences and by transferring them to those agricultural producer cooperatives [LPG's] and enterprises that are lagging behind in terms of yield levels and performance, and by applying scientific-technological results. For this purpose, the Politburo dealt with specific experiences and results as well as the further intensification in the field of grain production and sugar beet production, and made corresponding decisions.

The party organizations and state leaderships were given a clear guideline for the political and economic-organizational work in the LPG's, state-owned farms [VEG's], the councils for agriculture and the foodstuffs industry, and in the cooperation councils to ensure high crop production. An even better supply of organic matter to the soil, the quality of work, the overcoming of overlarge differences in yields under comparable conditions, and other tasks were particularly stressed.

Today, we can note that it has been possible to make progress in intensifying crop production by implementing these decisions. In this process, the party organizations gained experience in leading the socialist competition, in carrying out an effective comparative performance appraisal, and in linking science and the practical work of the peasants even more closely—experience which is important for future work. The focal issue was to work out demanding yardsticks, in particular for raising soil fertility, in every cooperative and in every VEG, proceeding from natural and economic conditions, and to put them into practice with the goal of raising yields as much as possible. This task was also used as the basis of the Central Committee Secretariat's decision on preparing and carrying out spring cultivation.

The cooperative peasants and workers have accomplished great achievements to establish favorable preconditions for higher yields in crop production during this year's spring cultivation. There is clear progress in the quality of work and in fulfilling the tasks for scientific soil and stock management. The start of vegetation, which was early compared with other years, favored these results. In view of the existing water deficit and the weather conditions as of March this year, the Politburo ordered that utmost use be made of all existing facilities and possibilities for overhead irrigation and furrow irrigation using all available water resources, and that these also be fully utilized on weekends and at night by means of shift work around the clock.

The Politburo proceeds from the premise that the irrigation of agricultural area is one of the most essential preconditions for ensuring stable, high yields in crop production also during periods of drought. One has to note critically that insufficient work was done in this field. The Politburo ordered the development of a broad initiative for the further expansion of irrigation of agricultural area, in particular by applying simple methods and exploiting all local reserves. The working people in the LPG's and VEG's have to pay special attention to ensuring the perfect functioning of the irrigation facilities.

During both spring cultivation and maintenance works and the fodder harvest the cooperative peasants and workers demonstrated that the efforts of agricultural machine building and of agro-technical maintenance to safeguard work from a material-technical point of view have to be further improved so that the agro-technical dates are adhered to, the quality of work is raised, and better use is made of technical equipment. The Politburo set down stipulations for the supply of spare parts for agricultural vehicles and automatic loaders in the required ranges and quality and at the required date.

Further Intensification of Vegetable Production Necessary

Comrades, during the first 5 months of 1989 29,800 tonnes more fresh vegetables were produced compared with the average of the years 1986-88. Nevertheless, it was not possible to make up for the general shortages of vegetables for storing. Supplies of vegetables to the population were not continuously ensured in their full ranges. The measures that were additionally introduced to raise vegetable production during the first half of 1989 have had a positive effect.

After thorough analysis, the Politburo made decisions for the further development of vegetable production. The core is the task to bring about quantitative and qualitative changes in the production and supply of vegetables already for the second half of 1989 and for 1990. Above all, it is necessary to further intensify vegetable production with the goal of achieving high and stable yields, of expanding the ranges, and of ensuring the necessary quality. For this purpose, measures are to be initiated to overcome the unwarranted differences in yields, in marketing, and in processing.

The Politburo orders that the responsibility of the bezirk and kreis councils for domestic supply be raised and that better use be made of the natural and economically favored locations for vegetable production for the supply to workers centers. For the coming years conditions are to be established so that the production of vegetables and fruit, trade, and processing are shaped in such a way that they better meet the increasing demands and requirements of healthy nourishment. An important precondition for this is to ensure the irrigation of all vegetable fields.

Progress in the Political and Economic Consolidation of the LPG's and VEG's Comrades, at the year-end meetings of the LPG's and in the accountability reports of the state-owned enterprises of socialist agriculture, progress in the political and economic consolidation of the LPG's and VEG's as the basic units of agricultural production and in deepening their cooperation relations were worked out. Ambitious targets were decided for the 1989 plan.

The losses in yields and in the contribution to the national income in 1988 were critically analyzed. Corresponding conclusions concern, above all, the even more effective application of socialist business management in order to reduce production input and improve the input-output ratio, the further shaping of the regional and brigade principle in organizing production and labor, enforcing the performance principle, and linking science even more closely with the practical work peasant. With this, the goals of comprehensive intensification, which were set by the 11th SED Congress and the 13th Peasants' Congress, to achieve high yields and performances in crop and livestock production with lower costs and higher labor productivity, are to be purposefully implemented.

In livestock production it is becoming increasingly urgent to ensure the planned animal stocks with high performances per animal, to modernize and rationalize livestock production facilities, in particular to mechanize older animal-sheds for the first time. Particular attention is to be paid by all people working in agriculture to stable domestic supplies to the high animal stocks with high-quality fodder in sufficient quantity.

Considerably higher intensification effects can be achieved through the further improvement of preparation and carrying through of investments. A particular focal issue are the investment measures that were decided in the processing industry with the goal of processing agricultural raw materials with lowest possible losses and highest possible efficiency, to refine them highly, and to contribute to stable daily supplies with expanded ranges, rising quality, and improved raw material yield, and to further improve working and living conditions in the enterprises of the foodstuffs industry.

Socialist democracy proves its worth in cooperatives and enterprises as well as in the economic management work of the cooperation councils. The broad inclusion of the cooperative peasants and workers in the discussions of targets and tasks to implement the party decisions and the challenge to their creative participation have again proved to be an important principle of our agricultural policy.

At the semi-annual meetings, the party's bezirk and kreis leaderships as well as the basic organizations face the task of ensuring, together with the cooperative peasants and workers, critical accounting for all measures initiated in line with the decisions of the seventh Central Committee session. The ideopolitical work is to be aimed at setting high yardsticks in the development of yields and performances, adhering to cooperative democracy, and deepening cooperation relations. This has to be organized further.

The balance sheet of our agricultural and alliance policy, which is full of results, is graphically illustrated at the "Agra 89" Fair. The opening of this important agropolitical instructive exhibition of achievements by Comrade Erich Honecker and the cordial meetings with cooperative peasants and workers during the walkabout became a political highlight. The relationship of trust between the party leadership and the working people of socialist agriculture, forestry, and the foodstuffs industry was demonstrated again. In the talks the increasing political and economic importance of the firm alliance of the workers class with the class of the cooperative peasants and the intelligentsia in further shaping the developed socialist society was stressed. During the 40 years of development of the GDR this alliance, led by the Marxist-Leninist party, has brought about fundamental changes in the political and social life of the villages, which today are among our important socialist achievements and values.

A political guideline and instruction for work in the further implementation of the 11th SED Congress and the 13th Peasants' Congress was provided by the Central Seminar with 1,250 leadership cadres and practical workers of socialist agriculture, forestry, and the foodstuffs industry, which was organized by the SED Central Committee and the GDR Council of Ministers in Leipzig-Markkleeberg from 6 to 9 June 1989 and was linked with an intensive examination of the most important parts of "Agra 89."

The participants in the seminar and the festive event on the "Day of the Cooperative Peasant and Worker in Socialist Agriculture and Forestry" jointly sent a letter to Comrade Erich Honecker, in which, in preparation of the 12th SED Congress, they pledged to tap all reserves for the fulfillment and purposeful overfulfillment of the 1989 national economic plan. They set themselves the militant goal of securing the planned crop production of a GDR average of 50 grain equivalent units per hectare of agricultural area and to exceed it by 1 grain equivalent unit.

Comrades, during the period under review comprehensive work was done to establish overall conditions for the continuation of the process of intensification of agriculture and the foodstuffs industry in the nineties. Thus, the Politburo made a decision to shape the level of agricultural prices for the main products and other important economic measures in agriculture as of 1991. It includes raising the production-, performance-, and efficiency-stimulating effect of the agricultural prices and the economic regulations in such a way that the trust of the cooperative peasants and workers in the performance-oriented agricultural policy is consolidated further and that preconditions for an increasing contribution of agriculture to the national income are established. With this decision, the cost-yield ratio is developed in such a way that the process of comprehensive intensification of agricultural production is efficiently promoted in line with the specific reproduction conditions of the nineties.

At present the new prices and other economic regulations in the LPG's and VEG's are being tested by 17 cooperation groups, which are representative of the different production conditions. This constitutes an action in line with the tested principle of our agricultural policy to discuss all basic questions together with the cooperative peasants and to integrate their ideas and experiences into the decisionmaking process.

The decision of the Secretariat on the skeleton cooperation agreement of the cooperation associations is also oriented toward the future. It summarizes and juridically fixes the experiences of more than 20 years of cooperative collaboration between partners of agricultural primary production, the processing of agricultural raw materials, and trade in cooperation associations that are primarily oriented toward the final product. Now it is important to work out the specific cooperation agreements of the respective associations and to utilize this process to focus work on the questions of raising the effectiveness and efficiency of supplies.

It is important to integrate these two decisions meaningfully and with high efficiency in the further conceptual work for shaping the economy of agriculture and the foodstuffs industry, and in particular in the further improvement of management, planning, and economic cost accounting in line with the further shaping of the socialist production conditions. This places high demands on the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Foodstuffs Industry, but also on the leadership and management activities in the bezirks and kreises.

Comrades, the working people of forestry fulfilled the planned tasks for supplies of rough timber to the national economy and the population. Additional supplies amounting to a total of 150,000 cubic meters of spruce fiber-wood for the pulp industry, which became necessary, were already realized during the first quarter of 1989. In excess of the 1989 plan, 90,000 cubic meters of trunk timber were supplied to the sawing industry.

At the same time, it cannot be overlooked that considerable amounts of wood are left lying around in the forests and are thus removed from use in the national economy. The Politburo expects greater efforts by all forestry enterprises in securing and transporting the available amounts of wood and by the industry in processing the wood, in particular in the sawmills.

The Politburo accepted information about the state of the forests, about measures to increase its safety and productivity and to ensure its environmental function and its recreational and cultural role. The production collectives, leadership cadres, and forestry experts were ordered to continue with even greater determination the measures to revitalize the forests and to raise order and cleanliness in the forests. In total, the wood resources of our forests are to be used more efficiently in the future. Measures which facilitate a more comprehensive processing of thin and hard wood in the chip board and fiber board works as well as in the pulp industry, are necessary. The state-owned forestry enterprises have the task to refine thin wood to a greater extent in consumer goods production.

Comrades, on 25 and 26 May 1989, the Eighth Central Delegates' conference of the Peasants' Mutual Aid Association [VdgB] took place in Karl-Marx-Stadt. Under the leadership of our party, this socialist mass organization of cooperative peasants and cooperative gardeners has developed to be an important social force in the villages. In the future, too, the VdgB will put political work in the village in the focus of its entire work.

VdgB and Union of Small Gardeners, Settlers, and Small Livestock Breeders Actively Participate in Shaping Social Life

The VdgB members are called upon to further promote the dynamic performance increase in agriculture and the shaping of attractive, productive villages through good work results and exemplary initiatives. This concerns improving working and living conditions as well as the development of a vivid intellectual-cultural life in the village and the shaping of an attractive environment. It is necessary to grant good political support to the VdgB organizations in their work.

During the period under review, the sectors of the Union of Small Gardeners, Settlers, and Small Livestock Breeders [VKSK] also developed numerous activities in order to raise the individual production of plant and animal products, in particular of vegetables. We highly appreciate the fact that its members link their leisure time and recreation with productive work. An important focal point of the current work of the VKSK and the state organs is the implementation of the decisions of the 11th SED Congress to establish 150,000 small gardens. All these VKSK initiatives continue to require support by the party and state organs.

Comrades, the Central Committee Secretariat discussed the results of the schools of cooperative work and decided on the schedule of topics for 1989-90. The requirements of our time, the increasing need of the cooperative peasants to discuss political issues and to immerse themselves more deeply in the relationship between politics and economics, make it necessary to further raise the standards of the schools of cooperative work. The party's bezirk and kreis leaderships were ordered to pay due attention to this educational reform.

With the decision on measures for preparing and carrying out the harvest of grain and root crops, as well as the autumn work, the Central Committee Secretariat has provided the bezirk and kreis leaderships with a clear guideline for the political direction of this important work period in the agricultural sector. It is important to secure the pace and the quality at a high level from the beginning, and to harvest all crops with as little loss as possible. Considering the current situation it is a great challenge for all product-related cooperation groups to guarantee the supply with fodder for livestock from our own production to the highest possible degree. In order to attain a high production of fodder, the cultivation of intercrops has to be extended and the use of grassland intensified.

Products such as vegetables, fruits, and potatoes, which are directly supplied to the population, have to be brought in, processed, and stored with special care. At the same time, the Secretariat's decision has established measures that guarantee the material-technological side of the harvest and autumn work that has to be fulfilled by the responsible bodies without any cuts.

Local Elections—a Clear Support for Our Policy

Dear comrades, the 1989 local elections turned out to be a strong declaration of support by the citizens for the successful policy of the SED and for their worker-peasant state, as well as a convincing vote for the candidates of the National Front. Election day became a political climax. A total of 12,183,318 citizens, or 98.85 percent of the valid votes, opted for the joint election program of the National Council of the National Front and thus for tested coexistence, for strong socialism, and a secure peace.

Considering the many and various developments, the election result of 7 May is of national and international importance. It proves to what degree socialism has become the concern of the entire people, of all classes and strata, as long as its regularities are being observed and applied creatively according to the specific national conditions. It was demonstrated how politically stably and economically successfully the GDR is developing, and how much our party's policy, which is aimed at continuity and renewal, is in line with the interests of our citizens.

The election result reflects the constructive alliance policy of our party, the trustful cooperation of the parties and socialist organizations in the Democratic Block and in the National Front, and the political-ethical unity of our people. It is proof of the citizens' trust in the joint work to implement the SED's social strategy, the expression of the certainty of the secure future road of our worker-peasant state, and the readiness to cooperate, participate in planning, and in the leadership. Now, together with the forces that are united in the National Front, our party will do everything together with the people to implement the election program for the benefit of our people in every respect.

Based on the Seventh Meeting of the Central Committee and the election appeal of the National Council of the National Front, a comprehensive and open public discussion was held about all important questions that are vital to the interests of the people. The press, radio, and television have presented thousands of candidates and conveyed the experiences of the fruitful local policy in towns and throughout the country.

On various occasions, the Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat discussed the questions of preparing the local elections. For this purpose reports of the Schwerin and bezirk leadership and Dessau kreis leadership were submitted to them. In this context one could see that the offensive and efficient political-ideological work regarding the local elections has created a solid basis for the further effective preparation among the masses of the 40th anniversary of the GDR and the 12th SED Congress. In talks and petitions many citizens stressed that they are ready to work even more actively for the development of the areas where they live and of their villages. At the same time, they pointed to problems in the communal sector, such as in housing management and housing repair, in the local construction sector, in the sectors of trade and supply, and in the city and utility services. All the questions that were raised by the citizens have to be answered promptly and in a business-like manner, and solutions have to be jointly implemented. Any information about incidents of heartlessness and a bureaucratic attitude in state organs that are criticized by the citizens has to be consistently followed up, and the corresponding conclusions have to be drawn.

The election movement reinforced the knowledge that every day it is important to respect what citizens say, to respond to their questions with understanding, to brief them on the party's course with patience and in a way that is true to our principles, and, for the well-being of all to include them, with their expert knowledge and their sense of responsibility, in decision-making and discussion of projects on a local level.

This year's local elections were combined with further steps for developing our election system and socialist democracy, and the voters responded very strongly to them. Social organizations that do not have a mandate, as well as local committees and residential district committees of the National Front, as well as regional associations for the the first time were able to propose their own candidates. A total of 7,871 deputies and follow-up candidates were nominated in this way. Thus, the political and social basis of the people's representative bodies has further widened.

The local committees of the National Front have gained an important increase in social recognition due to the new tasks that they were entrusted with in the election movement. The statements by the local and residential district committees with regard to the proposed candidates, which complemented the examination in the work collectives, have promoted the close alliance between the deputies and their residential area. In public and well-attended debates in the constituencies, the voters had an additional opportunity to participate in deciding who should be nominated as a candidate for the election and who should not.

Citizens of All Classes and Levels With Seat and Vote in People's Representative Bodies

The size of constituencies was reduced. The principle of the constituency being the place of residence was implemented almost everywhere. Criticism was voiced in those parts where this principle was not sufficiently observed. There was a positive response to the introduction of the right to vote for foreigners and their eligibility for elections at the level of local elections under the law of 3 March 1989. A total of 58 foreign fellow citizens were elected as deputies, and 73 as follow-up candidates. On the whole, all changes have created good conditions for even closer and more immediate relations between deputies and voters.

Dear comrades, since then the first sessions of the newly elected peoples' representative bodies have taken place. These sessions have established the tasks for the new term, particularly concerning the preparation of the 12th SED Congress. Our party's leaderships should do everything they can to ensure that the people's representative bodies and the deputies can freely exercise their great responsibility for the development of cities and communities.

The make-up of the people's representative bodies reflects the political and social structures of the population in the individual regions. What has to be stressed is that more than half of the deputies are employed in the material production sector. The proportion of women and young people has been further increased. However, more efforts are required to prepare even more women as council chairmen and city mayors.

The Politburo and the Secretariat have repeatedly dealt with the implementation of the law on local elected assemblies. The functioning of everyday life in the communities has many beneficial effects on the atmosphere in the cities and communities. It was much appreciated that, on the occasion of the elections, local projects were concluded everywhere in towns and throughout the country, and that these could be handed over for the use by the citizens. The achievements of those enterprises and institutions that come directly under the local state organs have to be rapidly and largely increased. Cooperation between the elected assemblies and local councils and the enterprises, cooperative, and other institutions has to be further intensified.

The Politburo considers it to be necessary that the Council of Ministers examines the many and varied proposals which are aimed at increasing the responsibility of the local elected assemblies and their councils in the development of performance and efficiency in the individual regions, and at establishing more direct relations to the households of kreises and cities.

Through the use of the West's electronic media, the class enemy has attempted, more than in the past, to negatively influence the election in the GDR and to mobilize oppositional forces. There was an objective and consistent reaction to provocations from representatives of certain groupings. Those who called for a boycott of the elections were clearly rebuffed by the impressive vote of the electors.

Closely connected with the local election was the election of directors, judges, and lay assessors of kreis courts as well as the members of arbitration commissions. This showed once again the democratic basis of our legal system, the extensive involvement of the working in the selection, examination, and election of judges and lay assessors. The very close relationship between the courts and the public and the people's representative bodies stimulate the citizens' willingness to develop even more responsibility for the enforcement of the law, alertness, order, and discipline.

290,000 Citizens Elected as Worker-Peasant Inspectors

Elections to the worker-peasant inspectorate took place between 2 Jan and 28 February. Now a total of more than 290,000 citizens are working in the people's control organs, including the committees and inspectorates in the centrally- and bezirk-administered combines. Our party's leaderships are to support the people's control inspectors even more effectively and help them to mobilize reserves for the necessary growth of the performance and efficiency of the national economy, as well as for further improving the citizens' working, living, and housing conditions. More than ever before it has to be a prime concern of the commissions and people's control committees of the worker-peasant inspectorate to ensure order, discipline, and tidiness in enterprises, cooperatives, and institutions, as well as in cities and communities. This requires that the good results be analyzed and the reason for deficiencies and impediments be sought, and, finally, that constructive proposals for change be submitted.

The close confidential relationship with the working people is and remains a decisive condition for continually consolidating our socialist state and our legal system. This was confirmed by our GDR prosecutor general's comprehensive report to the the Politburo on the development of and the struggle against crime during the past 3 years. The report stresses that thanks to the uniform action of our state's power organs and the support of the citizens it was possible to prevent crime, and thus further strengthen our legal system. The number of offenses was reduced from an average 124,800 in the seventies to 119,000 in the eighties. Even though each crime is one too many, one can say that with 715 criminal offenses per 100,000 inhabitants last year, the GDR crime rate is once again very low by international standards. The fifth Criminal Law Amendment Act, which was adopted by the People's Chamber last year, has been drawn up to meet the new requirements on maintaining legality, order, and security.

Together with their 310,000 members, 34,000 social courts do an efficient job with a high sense of commitment. As the representatives of their collectives, a total of 96,000 working people have taken part in court trials, as have 10,400 citizens as social prosecutors or defenders. In 16,300 cases the collectives or working people have assumed guarantees for persons who were sentenced to pay fines, but were not arrested.

The Politburo has requested the party organizations and all responsible state and economic officials to thoroughly assess the level of legality in their spheres and to draw conclusions for further purposefully preventing and struggling against violations of the law.

Cooperation Within the Alliance Has Continued To Develop Well

Dear comrades, the close cooperation between the SED and the other parties and organizations that are united in the democratic block and in the National Front, has continued to develop well and for the benefit of socialist society, and thus for the benefit of all citizens.

This is expressed in a great number of proposals regarding social development in all fields, proposals which have been conveyed to the chairman of our party by the chairmen of the friendly parties in preparation for the 12th SED Congress. We appreciate this very much since it reflects the position of our partners in the alliance, namely to jointly respond to the interests of all classes and levels by constantly improving the shaping of socialism. Thus, cooperation has continued, cooperation for which we laid the foundation stone already in the process of anti-fascist democratic changes, and which has proved its vitality in all stages of development in the GDR.

This is all the more true in our time and in the future. Toward the GDR parties with which it is in friendly alliance, the SED stresses that the continuous perfection of the comradely and trustful relations are and will remain a fundamental component of the social strategy of the party of the workers class. The tested principles of the democratic block and the National Front are essential for the successful continuation of our common course, which is aimed at the well-being of the people and at strengthening socialism.

Significant results were once again achieved through the citizens' action under the motto of "Beautify our cities and villages, join in!"

Since the beginning of the year, a total of M4.3 billion has been spent on the maintenance of apartments and social institutions. Some 57,200 apartments of senior citizens and citizens in need of help have been renovated. Many important projects at the local level could be concluded. These include the creation of places in kindergartens and creches, redecorating veterans' and youth clubs, connecting further households to the supply of drinking water and the sewage system, as well as building new playgrounds for children.

There has been an increase in the number of initiatives for nature protection, for clean forests and waterways. There is great support for the "A life-giving tree for my country" action, during which 12.7 million trees and shrubs have already been planted. More than 700 stations and their surroundings have been made more attractive by the diligence of the citizens. A total of 126,000 tonnes of waste paper, 199,400 tonnes scrap, and 575,6 million bottles and jars have been collected from households for recycling.

The Free German Youth Has Proved Its Value as a Helper and Militant Reserve of the SED

Dear comrades, the "FDJ Whitsun meeting" was an inspiring demonstration of the young generation's solidarity with the policy of our party and with the socialist homeland. Our general secretary, Comrade Erich Honecker, regarded our youth's enthusiastic demonstration of support as a clear indication of the victorious quality of socialism in the heart of Europe, of peace, and anti-imperialist solidarity.

The more than 2,000 political, cultural, and sports events, which have been determined by the many and varied interests of our youth, primarily the powerful opening ceremony in Marx-Engels Square, and the demonstration along Karl-Marx Allee, which was backed by the youthful vigor and the support of hundreds of thousands for the course of the SED, have shown the power that comes from the uniform and united work of our socialist youth association. With their excellent "GDR 40 FDJ drive," with their knowledge and their abilities, the participants turned this meeting into an exhibition of achievements that demonstrated the opportunities socialist society is offering young people, and how the young generation of the GDR is using them. The 500 members of socialist youth associations of both Poland and the CSSR, who had come as guests, together with with delegates from the Komsomol, the DPRK, the FRG, and Berlin (West) were able to convince themselves of this.

With its militant optimism and its infectious joy of life, the "FDJ Whitsun meeting" was a climax in the preparation of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR. By means of press and radio, and primarily the television, millions of GDR citizens were able to participate in these unforgettable days in Berlin.

The meeting between Comrade Erich Honecker and the Secretariat of the FDJ Central Council immediately after the Seventh Meeting of the SED Central Committee was of great importance for the preparation of this powerful manifestation. The meeting focused on the results and experiences of, and the demands on the class-minded education of the youth, and the tasks that have to be solved in the run-up to the 12th SED Congress. Based on the knowledge of the Communist Manifesto, our general secretary pointed to the experience that the history of all societies to date has been the history of class struggles, and that Marx and Engels have done a priceless service to the youth by revealing the laws of social development. Marxism-Leninism is and remains the reliable compass with which we are able to work actively for socialism and peace. Comrade Erich Honecker stressed that with the findings of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, the SED had led the people's masses to the new, the socialist society, and that they will remain the guidelines for our party's policy in the future.

The meeting with the Secretariat of the FDJ Central Council and the fundamental statements Comrade Erich Honecker made in his interview with JUNGE WELT have been a great stimulus to the socialist youth association and all responsible social forces working for the class-minded education of the youth, and have made political-ideological work even more attractive to all young people under the conditions of our time. Thus, the basic organizations of the party have drawn the conclusion that in all their activities they have to pay great attention to showing to our young generation in a new way and in the course of talks how the SED is contributing to the worldwide struggle for disarmament, detente, and social progress, and how, in full responsibility to the GDR people and its youth, it creatively applies the laws of social construction in accordance with the particular national characteristics of our country.

A Clear Image of Friend and Foe

Just as in the meetings of FDJ members in April on the topic "The GDR: my socialist fatherland" and in the group discussions during the FDJ academic year, the talks between the general secretary of the Central Committee, the members and candidate members of the Politburo, the members of the Council of Ministers, other figures of all social spheres, and participants in the Whitsun meeting confirm that the young generation feels closely attached to and supports our party's purposeful policy, and thus proves to what extent it considers socialism to be the perspective of their lives. This attitude will be strengthened as the party and youth officials, the state leaders, other leaders, teachers and educators, journalists and artists, in continual political dialogue with the young people, respond to their many and varied questions, opinions, and proposals with understanding and attention, strengthen the youth's class-minded position in national and international developments by their own example, and promote their work for the successful continuation of our revolutionary cause. Many of the best FDJ members are also encouraged to apply for membership in the ranks of the SED. This became obvious before and during the Whitsun meeting. Many FDJ members expressed their desire to be accepted as members of the SED, and Comrade Erich Honecker, on behalf of the Politburo in a letter to the FDJ Central Council, consented to this request. The SED leaderships and basic organizations have been instructed to thoroughly discuss in the party collectives the FDJ's proposals for membership of more young fellow fighters in the militant alliance of the communists. In preparation for the 12th SED Congress, the entry of many of the best FDJ members as SED candidate members will further strengthen our party and the FDJ.

Comrades, the preparation for the "FDJ Whitsun Meeting" has once more confirmed how important it is to familiarize every new generation in a differentiated way with our revolutionary view of the world as a guideline for their own revolutionary actions. The young people need a clear image of the world as well as of friend and foe. They need the support of the comrades who are experienced in life and combat, so that they realize that our epoch has been characterized by the irreconcilable conflict between socialism and capitalism. For us youth education primarily consists of and remains class education in the unity of imparting political-ideological knowledge, its practical application, and ethical-moral development. What is important in this unity is to entrust the young people with responsible tasks, so that they can participate in our socialist construction work as designers with equal rights and consolidate their own sense of responsibility for our further progress. It has become evident again and again that in order to do this it is indispensable that the state leaderships ensure the conditions so that the assignments that are accepted by the youth collectives are carried out successfully.

It has also become apparent that leisure time activities have become increasingly important for the development of young people's personalities. The contents, style, and organization of leisure time should be designed everywhere in such a manner that further shapes the socialist way of life, responds to the youth's manifold interests, and involves even more young people. The FDJ will better fulfill its assignment as a helper and militant reserve of the SED the more efficiently it proves its worth, with the support of our party, as the true representative of all the different interests of the young generation.

The Secretariat accepted a report by the FDJ Central Council on the work of the friendship brigades in 1988 and approved the concept for their future work. In 1989, in the 25th year of the friendship brigades' work, 19 brigades are working in 11 countries and at the African National Council. With its partners from the GDR and Nicaragua, the FDJ is currently making great efforts in order to expand the "Karl Marx" Hospital in Managua by handing over a surgery wing and a delivery room on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the victory of the Sandinist people's revolution.

Thus, through its cooperation with the Lenin Komsomol, the youth organizations of our neighboring countries CSSR and Poland, and with its other friends, through the preparation for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students in the DPRK, and the work of its friendship brigades on various continents, the FDJ demonstrates how much its entire work is characterized by socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism, by friendship among peoples, and by anti-imperialist solidarity.

Ninth Pedagogical Congress—Event for the Entire Society

Dear comrades, upon the decision of the Politburo and the Council of Ministers, the Ninth Pedagogical Congress was convened in January 1988.

The announcement of the collegium of the Ministry of Education for preparing the Congress, which ordered people to adopt all good experiences and insights of the teachers in their daily work, to hold a creative exchange of views on how a certain quality of pedagogical work can be reached in schools, kindergartens, and homes that meets the high demands, and to present their ideas and suggestions on this, has given rise to many considerations and initiatives in the teachers' collectives, which are directed at how high quality can be ensured in every lesson, in political-moral education, and in the teachers' work. Teachers and educators, parents, work collectives from enterprises, the youth organization, the "Ernst Thaelmann" Pioneer Organization, other mass organizations, the friendly parties, scientific societies, and institutions submitted a great number of proposals, hints, and suggestions. Thus, they again stressed that the socialist education of the young generation is a matter for the entire society in our GDR.

The congress, which was held in the capital city of Berlin from 12 to 15 June, was attended by 4,300 teachers, educators, school functionaries, scientists, and representatives of social organizations.

It was a big democratic forum, at which 120 teachers from all sectors of the public education sector took the floor. The participants expressed their will and their determination to do everything in their power to educate our young people in the spirit of socialism, peace, progress, and proletarian internationalism, in the spirit of love and loyalty for our socialist fatherland. They expressed the view that in the 40th year of the existence of our Republic, they feel in a special way how closely the successful development of the school, its successes and concerns, achievements, and things that still have to be achieved in pedagogical work were and are linked with the establishment and development of the worker-peasant state.

The congress, which posed ambitious tasks for all teachers, also encouraged them in the conviction that they are following a good path and that, on the basis of a stable and dynamic development of our socialist fatherland, they have all of the necessary things needed to do successful work during the coming years, with a view to the next millennium, to find answers to new questions, and to solve emerging problems in a constructive way.

In the speech by Education Minister Comrade Margot Honecker, the 40 years of school development in our Republic were described as a continuous, very dynamic process of qualitative restructuring and steady improvement of the education sector, promoted by the pedagogical innovative spirit of several generations of socialist teachers. It was convincingly demonstrated how a further step for shaping the school of the developed socialist society has been tackled since the beginning of the 1980's, proceeding from the analysis of the social development and the experiences of practical work in schools. A further developed concept of general education has been worked out and the decision of the 11th SED Congress to work out and introduce new syllabi by 1990 has been realized. The problems that need further scientific examination and practical solutions were outlined.

The congress demonstrated that the 10-grade general polytechnical secondary school, which has developed under the specific historical conditions of the GDR, has proved its worth as a basic education institution on which vocational training and any kind of advanced training can be based, and that in our Republic equality of opportunities is ensured for all people.

The tasks of providing political education to the young were comprehensively discussed from the viewpoint of the current class conflict, and it was stressed that it is important to help the young people see how the transition of mankind from capitalism to socialism is taking place in our century in a long, hard struggle, which follows the historical regularities, and what historic achievements socialism can show.

The congress stressed that the education of the young is a common concern of schools, parents, children's and youth organizations, and enterprises, that the entire society has a great responsibility to use the conditions that are developing hand in hand with the further social progress for effective education.

The congress reflected the role and responsibility of the teacher in forming the political awareness, the ethics, the character, and the feelings of young people. The exchange of experiences of the teachers and the methods of approaching the tasks that have to be solved convincingly showed that Marxist-Leninist pedagogy is a pedagogy that is oriented toward the child both in theory and in practice. The congress affirmed that the human right to education in life has been implemented in our GDR.

The tasks and requirements that were expounded constitute a comprehensive work program for the preparation of the 12th SED Congress in the field of public education.

Further Concentration and Improvement in Teaching and Research

Comrades, in evaluating the seventh Central Committee session the universities and colleges discussed the performance requirements resulting for scientific institutions in the further shaping of the developed socialist society in the GDR. An expression of this are the varied initiatives to intensify the scientific work processes in teaching and research through concentration and improvement. Progress in shaping the independent scientific work of the students were reflected by the FDJ Student Days and exhibitions of achievements, which were held at the universities, colleges, and technical colleges over the past few months.

It has again been confirmed that the daily political talk of the teaching staff with the colleagues and students on all questions that concern them is the decisive precondition for deepening the understanding for our party's policy, and for transferring the support for this policy into active and creative work.

In a decision, the SED Central Committee Secretariat obligated the kreis and bezirk leaderships, the scientific institutions of the party, and the responsible state organs to take measures to gain applicants for study to become a teacher of Marxism-Leninism. Basic studies have to be equipped with teaching aids with latest socioscientific results. Tested party propagandists should be used for the exchange of experience with the Marxism-Leninism departments. At the Eighth Historians' Congress, which took place under the motto "war and peace and social progress in history" in January, it was a special concern of our historians to convincingly demonstrate the decade-long consistent work of the first socialist German state for peace and security in Europe. This congress undoubtedly provided valuable stimuli for further responsible research and propagation of history, for deepening our Marxist-Leninist image of history.

The URANIA society enjoys great popularity in our country. With 1,650 lectures and forums on every working day, which are attended by about 50,000 citizens per day, URANIA is successfully working for the political and ideological orientation of the citizens, for raising their general knowledge, for improving special training and advanced training, and for meeting varied intellectual-cultural needs.

On 7 June, the first congress of the GDR Association of Free Thinkers took place in Berlin. With this, a new social organization entered our country's life and is actively working in the National Front. The interest in participating in work is great, because many people are looking for specific opportunities to frankly discuss ideological, philosophical, and ethical issues, to link this with individual aid for life, and to promote the socialist way of life.

Reliable Protection of the Socialist Fatherland

Dear comrades, the National People's Army has ensured the necessary defense capability under all conditions. Political and military training is conducted in line with the defensive character of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact member states. Nobody is threatened by this. This was also proved by the "Druzhba 89" and "Zyklus 89" military exercises, during which our soldiers accomplished outstanding achievements at the side of their comrades-in-arms.

Vigilance and readiness for defense remain necessary. The extent of our defense efforts is determined by the degree of potential threat. This corresponds to the citizens' interest in peace. This experience is also the decisive reason of the fact that they use their strength in solving tasks of national defense in the same way that they use it at their workplace.

The decision of young people to take up a military profession is highly respected in our socialist society and is promoted by our party, the state organs, and the social organizations, in particular by the FDJ and the Society for Sport and Technology. Those military cadres who withdraw from active military service in connection with the reduction of our armed forces and the reorganization of the leading organs enjoy the praise they deserve and every support in the transition toward a new stage of their lives.

The joint responsibility for the protection of peace and socialism also determined the meetings between Comrade Erich Honecker and the Military Council of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact states, as well as leading Soviet military officers, such as Army General Petr Lushev, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact states. In the talks, the firm fraternal alliance between the peoples of the USSR and the GDR and the comradeship-in-arms between the allied armies were confirmed. The GDR will always fulfill its obligation as a Warsaw Pact state and will contribute to keeping the defense capability of the alliance at the necessary level. This includes friendly relations with the Group of Soviet Forces stationed on GDR territory.

The protective and security organs did sacrificial work to continuously safeguard the state's security. With great readiness for action, they protected the worker-peasant power and guaranteed a life in peace and protection to the citizens.

The Communists and all members of the protective and security organs continue to consider it their most important task to fulfill at all times the common class assignment given by the 11th SED Congress. This is all the more the case since the opponents of socialism have intensified their attacks on the political stability of our worker-peasant power. The continued interference in our state's internal affairs, the intensified ideological diversion, and the attempts to instigate actions against our social system will not have any chance of success in the future, either.

It would be conducive to the good-neighbor relations between the GDR and the FRG and between the GDR and Berlin (West), if the ongoing provocations against our state border and the violations of the GDR's territorial integrity were stopped. In reply to journalists of THE WASHINGTON POST and NEWSWEEK, Erich Honecker explained that the use of firearms in the GDR is subject to the same regulations as in all other countries in the world. He told the U.S. journalists: "It is a fact that the arms regulation we use is no different to regulations on the use of firearms in Western countries. In fact, our border troops only use arms when there is a direct attack on life and limb, and also to prevent desertion, which happens only seldom." To ensure order and security in the border area and to protect the GDR's border, remains the assignment of the armed organs responsible for this and is the concern of the people who live in the border area.

The SED Central Committee conveys thanks and respect to the members of the National People's Army and the GDR Border Troops, the Ministry for State Security, the German People's Police, and of the other organs of the Interior Ministry, the Customs Administration, Civil Defense, and the Society for Sports and Technology for their great dedication and their loyal performance of their duty.

Results and Further Development in the Sphere of Sports

Comrades, the Politburo welcomes the intentions of the city of Leipzig to apply at the given time to the International Olympic Committee to stage the summer Olympic Games in the year 2004. This corresponds to the traditions and the GDR's high-level performances in the field of sports, where the Olympic idea has always been upheld.

In the period under review, the Politburo commented on the further development of competitive sports in the GDR. The analysis of the 1988 Olympic Games clearly revealed that conditions in international competitive sports are becoming more rigid. The task adopted with a view to the Olympic Games of 1992 and 1994, and aimed at maintaining and increasing the level that has been reached in many types of sport, is placing exacting demands on the German Gymnastics and Sports Federation [DTSB], its sports associations, and sports clubs under the present conditions. In order to meet these demands, the tested selection and promotion principle is to be applied even more efficiently, and to be further developed in accordance with the latest findings and our possibilities.

With nine gold, seven silver, and eight bronze medals which the GDR won this year at the world championship in all Olympic disciplines, the GDR has again succeeded in maintaining its place among the leading nations in international winter sports. It must be stressed that young cadres performed well in the national team and achieved top-level performances.

The 12th GDR Childrens' and Youth Spartakiad in the Olympic disciplines, was characterized by an outstanding fighting spirit on the part of the participants, the good level of the competitions, remarkable achievements on the part of the winners, and record performances. In the majority of disciplines, a good starting position for young athletes to catch up with international standards was achieved.

In summer sports, good results were achieved at the first international events of this year. The fact that our athletes won two European champion titles in men's gymnastics, and four gold medals in the European boxing championships testify to this.

The 42d International Warsaw-Berlin-Prague Peace Tour turned out to be a great sports event with great impact on the masses. We are glad that amateurs of the GDR collective took the first places in both team and individual ratings in this significant stage race.

With its "Sports Relay GDR 40" the DTSB is providing strong impulses for the development of the full diversity of mass sports. The sports meetings during the Week of Youth and Athletes, as well as the further improvement of the training and competitive systems of the sports associations, the numerous running events, sports courses, and springtime events testify to this.

Citizens' Interest in Healthy Lifestyle

Dear comrades, in the period that lies ahead of us, it will be important to consistently implement the current tasks aimed at further increasing the quality and efficiency of medical care. In this way, tangible improvements are to be achieved for the citizens. In this connection it is indispensable that all institutions of the health and social sphere cooperate with each other and with other spheres of society. In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Central Committee Politburo in November 1987 on medical care by family doctors, access to high-quality medical care must be ensured for all citizens at all times.

The further expansion of preventive medical care as a matter that concerns the whole of society, is of fundamental importance for ensuring the health of the citizens. This is in keeping with the saying "Prevention is better than healing" and is part of the further development of the lifestyle and culture of living in socialism. The Politburo welcomes the fact that an increasing number of people are adopting this view. The growing number of proposals and activities aimed at shaping the working and living conditions in a health-promoting manner, at developing mass sports, at promoting the consumption of healthy food, and at combating harmful habits testifies to this.

The National Health Conference of the SED Central Committee, the GDR Council of Ministers, and the FDGB National Executive Council, which will be held from 27 to 29 September 1989, will discuss long-term guidelines for the further development of health protection and medical and social care in the GDR, and submit corresponding proposals.

Devoting particular attention to the youngest members of our society is one of the primary tasks. This requires both more services for mothers and children, and the further content-related development of our creches, so that women do not have any problems when they go back to their jobs after 1 year of maternal leave. The Health Ministry was instructed to accord more importance to the comprehensive training of persons who work in the creches.

We welcome the fact that issues concerning a healthy lifestyle are being discussed by the mass media, in the health and social sphere, and in all other areas. This is seen by the citizens as good support for their own efforts to live in a healthier way, and it contributes to society's increased awareness of the significance of a healthy lifestyle.

Activities and the Sphere of Arts and Culture

Dear comrades, everywhere in our country a rich and diverse cultural life is unfolding, which is characterized by the values and ideals of socialism. The fact that an increasing number of citizens participate in the development of cultural life corresponds to the deeply democratic character of our socialist national culture.

The "Day of the Arts," which was held at the beginning of spring in Berlin and Halle Bezirk, testifies to the need of the working people, particularly young families with children, for an encounter and contact with art and literature. Both the young and the old welcomed with great interest the invitation by cultural workers and artists to visit their workshops, studios, rehearsal rooms, and stages.

The GDR Congress of Entertainment Art demonstrated the growing interest in forms of art that reach broad sections of the population through the media and in the form of numerous events. The possibilities of and conditions for achieving the higher quality and greater political and artistic impact of entertainment and social events organized by artists, authors, producers, and organizers were discussed in a dedicated and responsible manner.

Important performance comparisons were carried out in various spheres of art in view of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR, for example, at the Second National Theater Festival of the GDR and the Sixth National Festival of Children's Films of the GDR in Gera.

The commitment of artists during the elections to the local people's representative bodies, the FDJ Whitsun meeting, and the Seventh Festival of Sorb Culture deserves special mention.

The GDR Cultural League has further increased the effectiveness of its contributions. Active participation in socially significant projects, such as the "Cultivate monuments and their surroundings" drive, considerably strengthened its partnership with state organs. Much attention was devoted to the exhibition "150 years of photography."

By paying tribute to Friedrich Wolf and Ludwig Renn on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their birth, our work to make use of the socialist and antifascist cultural heritage was continued. We regard the living and effective tapping of the rich cultural tradition of the revolutionary German workers movement and its allies, of the work of the pioneers and founders of our socialist national culture and the socialist-realistic tradition, as a significant contribution to the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR.

The International Book Art Exhibition in Leipzig in 1989, of which Comrade Erich Honecker assumed patronage, was a cultural event of international standard. Within the international performance comparison in the sphere of book art, participation by 91 countries from all continents confirmed Leipzig's reputation as a city that has a rich tradition concerning books. The achievements of publishers, book artists, and printers were highly appreciated. The importance of books for peace, humanism, and understanding among peoples was emphatically stressed. The book art exhibition was at the same time a contribution to the world decade of cultural development, proclaimed by the United Nations and UNESCO.

The series of cultural days with fraternal socialist countries was continued with the Days of GDR Culture in the Hungarian People's Republic.

Great Achievements by Women

Dear comrades, inspired by the seventh Central Committee session, the women's organization also carried out many and varied activities. Thus, this years' international women's day developed into an impressive social highlight. At 7,700 rallies, in which nearly 2 million citizens participated, women from all sections of the population affirmed their firm confidence in our party's policy and our socialist state.

Groups and members of the Executive Committees of the Democratic Women's League [DFD] carried out useful, practice-oriented, and concrete work in many places in connection with the local elections. They activated political discussion, strengthened their friendly relations with the women in the sphere of crafts and trade and with women from the Christian population. Numerous DFD groups and associations participated in renovating and shaping playgrounds and children's and health facilities, and helped to further improve the work of trade and service institutions in the interest of working women and their families.

These diverse and useful initiatives promoted the women's readiness to participate in solving local policy tasks. The nomination of over 20,000 women who are well-known in the respective regions and play an active role in social life on behalf of the DFD is of particular significance in this context.

The Central Committee Secretariat approved of the directive of the DFD National Executive Committee to prepare and carry out elections in the groups and the bezirk delegates' conferences. We are convinced that they will turn out to be an important contribution to political work among the masses in the sphere of women in preparation for the 12th SED Congress.

In Harmony With the Lessons of History

Dear comrades, the speech by our general secretary at the festive event on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of Germany [KPD] drew great national and international response. In this speech, he outlined the basic standpoint of the SED on the role of history for the thinking and actions of the people.

It fills us with satisfaction that we were able to reaffirm the following on the occasion of this historic anniversary: What the founders of the KPD started 70 years ago is being completed in the birth and growth of the GDR. It has been worthwhile and it will continue to be worthwhile for a communist to dedicate all his life to the implementation of the historic mission of the workers class, to use all his strength within our militant alliance of like-minded people for the noblest cause in the world: to strengthen socialism and safeguard peace.

The respect for our party results mainly from its unbroken anti-imperialist, antifascist, revolutionary, and democratic traditions. Our country's communists have always been guided by the interests of the workers class and socialism, and struggled for this cause under all conditions. "In this, we take into consideration the valuable lessons that history is teaching us for the shaping of today and tomorrow, we repeatedly ask history for advice, and whenever we take a new step we look back, in the spirit of Lenin, at the distance that we have covered. We accept the historical facts the way they really are. We do not avoid anything and do not gloss over anything. However, there are a few things that we see more precisely, more clearly today than previously on the basis of our own experiences that we made during 4 decades of successful socialist revolution on German soil, on the basis of new social conditions and challenges, and on the basis of the findings of our Marxist-Leninist historical research," as Erich Honecker pointed out.

The history of our movement teaches us the incontestable fact that, during bright and dark days, the German Communists have always stood in the foremost front of those who struggled for peace, bread, friendship among the peoples, and against fascism, the baiting of peoples, racism, and war. Even today, our party, the SED, is a party of renovators whose efforts are aimed at winning over, with their vigor, their initiatives, and their creativity, all working people to the further shaping of the developed socialist society.

Fully in this spirit, our party, on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of founding of the Third International, stressed the decisive contribution that the Communist International made to establishing the communist world movement, to linking the international workers movement with Marxism-Leninism, and to creating and developing Marxist-Leninist parties that have proved themselves in the struggle against imperialism, fascism, and war. The KPD played a significant role in the entire process of the development of the Communist International, and in turn received important impulses, strength, and support for its work.

All these facts must never be subjected to individual approaches or economic considerations, but solely to the principle of historic truthfulness. This is especially true at a time when our political and ideological opponents intend to soil the history of socialism by means of a large-scale campaign of defamation aimed at discrediting its present and putting its future into question. Those who view socialism as an "error of history" only make the wish the father of the thought. The transition from capitalism to socialism is an objective process which takes place in accordance with the laws of class struggle. These are basic truths of the materialistic view of history which nobody can banish from the world.

The SED Approaches Its 12th Congress With Increased Militant Strength

Dear comrades, the discussions that were held at seminars in all basic organizations and with the leading cadres to evaluate the seventh Central Committee session, equipped the comrades with the political knowledge that enables them to meet the increasing demands in connection with further shaping the developed socialist society in the GDR. Their readiness and ability to argue in a class-minded and convincing manner during open and controversial political discussions, to reply to people's questions, and to act unwaveringly in the spirit of the resolutions adopted by our party has increased. The comrades stand resolutely at the head of new initiatives and advocate the concerns and goals of the SED's policy in word and deed, thus prompting an increasing number of work collectives to tackle challenging tasks.

Comrades, the Politburo has accepted a report by the Schwerin SED Bezirk leadership on experiences and results of the implementation of the resolutions of the seventh Central Committee session. This report also outlines further tasks that the bezirk party organization has adopted in preparation for the 12th SED Congress.

During the discussion, the Politburo stressed that the intensive and exemplary work with the balance sheet of what has been achieved, as well as the unwavering adherence to the tested policy aimed at the well-being of the people and the safeguarding of peace is generating optimism and confidence in the future among the party's members and candidate members and the working people. It increases their confidence and strength in implementing our good policy and in making all people aware of the values and ideals of socialism.

The Schwerin Bezirk leadership's view that steady work with the people is the most important factor in the successful preparation of the 12th SED Congress was confirmed. This involves another increase in the level of ideopolitical work, as well as in the militant strength and influence of the party's basic organizations. The potentials offered by life within the party and intra party democracy and by criticism and self-criticism are to be used to an even greater extent. This includes the efficient training of the cadres, a high level of individual work, as well as the assignment of challenging party tasks to the comrades.

On the basis of the experiences of the Schwerin bezirk, it is necessary to implement in every party organization the practice of discussing basic questions of socialism in the GDR and of the SED's social strategy, and to enable the comrades to lead the working people to new activities in socialist competition. The political work among the masses must constantly be in line with the unrenounceable demand of our socialist democracy that we listen to the people, respond to them, support the party's course with patience and in a way that is true to our principles, to include all citizens in good time in the process of decision-making, and in the implementation of our political, economic, social, and intellectual-cultural objectives.

The reports have made it clear that the major developments and changes in our country and in the lives of the citizens have to be used for deepening the awareness that the future will be socialist, for strengthening the pride in what has been achieved, without ignoring what has still to be done.

Unshakable Principle: Where There Is a Comrade, There Is the Party

Comrades, the party considers its uniform and united actions, and the exemplary and convincing work of its members to be the main nature of its work in political leadership. This is effectively supported by the Politburo decision adopted in January, "to further increase the level of the party's political-ideological work." On the basis of this decision, instructions for speeches on basic questions of our policy have been issued.

The demands at the level of activities of the leading party organs in the bezirks, kreises, and basic organizations for the development of a mass-related working style will further increase. Political dialogue with our fellow citizens, work collectives, and neighbors, and even with those who continue to be at the margin with regard to certain questions, is part of every comrade's political practice. Policies do not implement themselves, but become more effective the more everybody acts according to the principle: Where There Is a Comrade, There Is the Party.

Concerning questions of leadership, the Politburo accepted the report of a Central Committee working group on the support of the party organization of the Dresden bezirk for implementing the decisions of the seventh Central Committee session.

The Central Committee working group provided support to the bezirk leadership mainly for

—increasing the level of political work among the masses, consolidating the offensive strength of the party organization of the bezirk, explaining our social strategy, and fighting bourgeois and hostile views;

—fully tapping the bezirk's material and scientific-technological potentials and possibilities in order to increase the level and pace in industry and the construction sector;

—further improving the state's activities that are aimed at bezirk-related, economic, and social processes, particularly for securing the construction of new apartments, as well as modernizing and maintaining the value of apartments.

The discussion of these questions in the Politburo has helped to solve pending questions, to increase the overall responsibility of the Dresden bezirk leadership and its Secretariat for implementing the decisions of the Seventh Central Committee Meeting, as well as in preparation for the 12th SED Congress to attain good results in the entire bezirk by mass-related party work. The results that have been achieved since then, regarding the increase of the militant strength and the fulfillment of the economic tasks, demonstrate the considerable efforts of the bezirk party organization to meet these standards. All bezirk leaderships have assessed the resolution of the Politburo and drawn the main conclusion that a clear attitude toward these resolutions, and their consistent and creative implementation are the essence of the leadership's successful work.

The work of successful party organizations and leaders emphasizes that it is essential to strictly implement the principle of democratic centralism and to fundamentally, critically, and self-critically measure the results of one's own work against the resolutions. It is part of the basic knowledge of the political struggle, which was again confirmed during the local elections, that the party leaderships in their sphere of responsibility always have an exact and real analysis of the political situation, of the atmosphere and the views of the people. This also includes that any superficial assessment of phenomena, any complacency or violation of class vigilance will be opposed.

For further implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress, the Politburo regards it as necessary to promote a creative and comradely atmosphere in all social spheres and in all party and work collectives, in which every working person feels responsible for solving tasks. Practice has shown that these are the best conditions under which it is possible to tap further domestic reserves in the bezirks, kreises, communities, combines, enterprises, cooperatives, and institutions in order to newly stimulate the struggle for comprehensively strengthening the GDR in all spheres with the help of a good example.

Higher Demands on Intraparty Life

Dear comrades, to further improve the leadership activity the bezirk leaderships and kreis leaderships have set themselves the task of increasing the quality of the instruction, immediate support, and control of the basic organizations. This is why, in connection with the reports of the bezirk and kreis leaderships, the Politburo has put particular emphasis on paying great attention to the level of intraparty life and intraparty democracy. It is above all the assemblies of members and party groups, the party school year, as well as individual and honorary work, that must contribute even more to providing well-founded background information on the basis of resolutions, and thus promote political education and the fighting spirit of the members and candidate members of the party.

The efforts of the bezirk and kreis leaderships, as well as those of most basic organizations, are aimed at continuing the progress in the political-ideological work among the masses that has been achieved through the local elections, and at mobilizing the working people to produce a large amount of work and to produce new initiatives in preparing for the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR.

The bezirk and kreis leaderships have reinforced their support for the basic organizations in order to increase the efficiency of intraparty life so that the political steadfastness of the comrades will be strengthened. The meetings of members to discuss certain topics, which were organized by the bezirk party organizations, are of great importance in this context, meetings on the topic

"Every communist an active fighter at the ideological front" in Gera, and on the topic "Being a communist means fighting for and changing things" in Schwerin, for example. Their particular value lies in the fact that they discuss the individual possibilities for developing more extensive activities of the comrades, and help to consolidate the uniform attitude toward basic questions of the policy of the SED.

Intraparty life is primarily aimed at discussing openly, and in the way that the party would, the many and varied questions that life puts to us—mainly questions on the further implementation of our social strategy, on the diversity of paths of socialist construction in the different countries, and on class discussion of imperialism—at working out and consistently supporting a uniform political viewpoint, and at implementing, together with the working people, the policy of party and state. The assembly of members must be to an even greater degree the vital source for the training and education of the comrades, and it must help form their militant attitude and increase their activities. This includes holding discussions with those who do not fulfill their duties as party members. In the view of the comrades in the party organizations, this has increased the militant strength of the party and has made the party collectives close their ranks even more tightly. It was not least of all the offensive, convincing, and at the same time sensitive, attitude that has further increased the working people's confidence in the party.

The topics for the 1989-90 party schoolyear adopted by the Central Committee Secretariat, fully in this spirit, are aimed at the study of the revolutionary teachings of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, and of basic questions of our tested social strategy, and at the preparation of convincing arguments in connection with topical issues of the GDR's domestic and foreign policy. The over 75,000 comrades, primarily those from the basic organization who finish their courses at the educational institutions of the bezirk and kreis leaderships, are expected to fully apply the knowledge and skills that they have acquired in the phase of party work that is starting now.

The Secretariat decided on the preparation and carrying out of party courses at the "Karl Marx" Party College, the "Karl Liebknecht" Party School, and the bezirk party schools from September 1989 to February 1990 to provide advanced Marxist-Leninist training for civic teachers. The main goal of the training courses is to provide the civics teachers with fundamental theoretical and practice-oriented knowledge of basic issues of the SED's strategy and tactics to further strengthen socialism and safeguard peace.

Dear comrades, in implementing the resolutions of the 11th SED Congress, the Politburo has always been guided by the principle that the consistent qualitative strengthening of the ranks of the party is a decisive factor for enhancing the party's leading role.

As already pointed out, in preparing for the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR and the 12th SED Congress, the basic organizations should accept into our party more FDJ members, young workers, cooperative peasants, students, and members of the intelligentsia in order to strengthen our militant alliance.

On the Exchange of Party Documents and Party Elections

Comrades, the Politburo and the Central Committee Secretariat have adopted all of the required political and organizational measures in order to be able to carry out the exchange of party documents between September and December 1989. In this, we proceed from the premise that the exchange of the documents, as a firm element of our party's preparations for the 12th Congress, is an important political and inner-party event.

The exchange of membership books and candidates' cards, which is linked with personal talks with all members and candidate members, serves the further strengthening of the party's leading role and the enhancement of its militant strength in implementing the resolutions of the 11th SED Congress. It contributes to further increasing the unity and cohesion among the party's ranks and to deepening the alliance between the party and the masses.

Fully in the spirit of the forthcoming exchange of the documents, in January and February of this year the bezirk and kreis leaderships classified all members and candidate members of the SED in social categories in accordance with the new guidelines adopted by the Politburo. With this comprehensive action, the party made sure that the social development of the GDR after the Eighth SED Congress, particularly the effects of the dynamic development of the productive forces, is indeed reflected in the social composition of the party. The specific position in the social reproduction process is seen as the decisive criterion for the classification of the members and candidate members in social categories.

The tasks of the leading party organs in the exchange of documents was discussed with the second secretaries of the kreis leaderships. What is important now is the good political preparation of all members and candidate members for this important event in our party's life.

Comrades, the plenum has to discuss or confirm the draft resolution on carrying out party elections in 1990 in preparation for the 12th SED Congress, as well as the guidelines for the election of the delegates to the 12th Congress. These proposals are based on the statute of our party and correspond to our experiences.

The members and candidate members must also decide on the "electoral regulations of the SED Central Committee for the election of the leading party organs and for the election of the delegates to the delegates' conferences and party congresses" which were adopted by the 10th

Central Committee meeting in June 1985. They have proved successful in unfolding democracy within our party and in safeguarding the principle of secret voting. In preparing the party elections last year, the Politburo examined the topicality of the electoral regulations and suggests to the plenum to confirm them for the elections in preparation for the 12th SED Congress.

Firmly Linked With the People, the Tasks of Present and Future Are Being Fulfilled

Dear comrades, in order to further successfully prepare the 40th anniversary of the GDR and the 12th SED Congress, all bezirk and kreis leaderships and the leaderships of the basic organizations should concentrate on the following focal issues:

1. It is necessary to comprehensively generalize the good experiences of ideopolitical work, which were gained in implementing the decisions of the seventh Central Committee session and the Politburo resolution "On further raising the level of the party's ideological work," as well as during the local elections; these experiences have to be applied in leadership work. It is particularly necessary to aim all decisions, measures, and activities even more consistently at further consolidating the trust between the party and the people.

The rising standard of ideopolitical work will be measured by the increase of its power of conviction and effectiveness among the masses. This places high demands on our party and on the independent contribution of the friendly parties and mass organizations. This requires a uniform leadership of all activities, which have to be directed at tangible positive changes in the people's daily life.

2. The party organizations should concentrate their efforts in political management of the economy more intensively on the punctual, overall fulfillment of the plan targets by every individual work collective. In addition, it is necessary to exploit all reserves to overfulfill the plan for important final products for supplies to the population and for strengthening the material-technical base, as well as for export tasks.

Particular efforts are to be aimed at achieving the production and efficiency targets by utilizing science and technology in an economically profitable way. The reliable qualitative and quantitative fulfillment of the state plan and investment tasks, as well as the tangible reduction of imports are among the party's decisive militant tasks. Performance growth and improved working and living conditions always have to be guided as a uniform process.

3. The exchange of party documents is to be prepared and carried out in such a way that the leading role and militant strength of our party will be increased. It should be the concern of all party leaderships to forge the ideological unity of the party even more firmly through effective party education and purposeful trusting individual work with every comrade, to raise its capability of political action, and to increase the activity of all members and candidate members of the SED. It is important that every comrade strengthens the people's trust in the party with his work and his behavior. Every party member must be enabled and educated through high-standard inner-party life, to unerringly struggle for the implementation of the party's policy at all times.

Dear comrades, now we are already directly looking toward the historic event that concerns our party and all social forces united in the National Front: 40 years of the GDR. With the founding and development of the GDR we brought about a change in the history of our people and of Europe. Socialism is rooted forever and irrevocably in German soil, in the homeland of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Under the leadership of the Marxist-Leninist party, the workers class, together with its alliance partners, learned to lead a modern state, a state which faces the challenges of the time also today and successfully tackles them for the benefit of all citizens.

We are moving toward the 12th SED Congress full of optimism and confidence!

Leaders' Public Appearances for 22-27 Jun

AU3006144089

[Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 23-28 June reports the following appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication and page number in parentheses):

The following members of the Politburo of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) attended a propagandist event of the Halle Bezirk leadership: Hans-Joachim Boehme and Egon Krenz. (27 Jun, p 2)

Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, attended an arts exhibition in Berlin on 26 June. (27 Jun, p 1)

Joachim Herrmann, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, attended a reception hosted by Bernard Molewa, head of the representation of the African National Congress, in Berlin on 26 June. (27 Jun, p 2)

Guenther Kleiber, first deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and member of the Politburo, met with Slovak Interior Minister Stefan Lazar in Berlin on 26 June (27 Jun, p 2)

Egon Krenz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, attended a meeting at the "Wilhelm Pieck" Youth College in Bernau on 27 June. (28 Jun, p 1)

Guenter Mittag, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, chaired a session of the People's Chamber Industry, Construction, and Transport Committee in Berlin on 26 June. (27 June, p 1)

Erich Mueckenberger, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Central Party Control Commission, received a delegation of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party in Berlin on 26 June. (27 Jun, p 2)

Guenter Schabowksi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, attended a session of the Berlin Bezirk leadership in Berlin on 26 June. (27 Jun, p 1) He met with the chairman of the Berlin party organizations of the friendly parties in Berlin on 27 June. (28 June, p 8)

Harry Tisch, member of the Politburo and chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Free German Trade Union Federation, met with West Berlin trade unionists in Berlin on 22 June. (23 Jun, p 2) He received Ibrahim Zakhariyah, general secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions, in Berlin on 27 June. (28 Jun, p 2)

Margarete Mueller, candidate member of the Politburo, attended a reception hosted by Mozambican ambassador Julio Gonzalo Braga in Berlin on 23 June. (24-25 Jun, p 2)

Werner Walde, candidate member of the Politburo and first secretary of the Cottbus Bezirk leadership, attended a construction workers meeting in Cottbus on 24 June. (26 Jun, p 2)

Report on 'Rumors' of Soviet Troops on Borders

LD0107095989 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0445 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Interview with Defense Minister Ferenc Karpati by correspondent Tibor Hollauer; from the "Morning Dialogue" program—live or recorded]

[Text] [Hollauer] The news has spread that the Soviet troops that are being withdrawn from western Hungary are going to eastern Hungary, near the Romanian border in order to constitute a kind of reinforcement in the event of a possible Romanian incident.

[Karpati] It makes me very sad when I hear various alarming rumors from more and more places. This is extremely disturbing for the population. It disturbs the relationship between our countries. There is no basis whatsoever for this, and I ask people to refrain from such things.

[Hollauer] Obviously, the reason for this also is that people in appropriate places for example, the deputy head of a Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee department, have (?spoken) about Romania as a real enemy, and have also presented it as a military enemy.

[Karpati] Look, I did not speak with him; I only read what he said.

[Hollauer] In this, there is mention of a strike from the rear.

[Karpati] I said in the newspaper that this surprised me. I am very interested whether, when he returns from his leave abroad, this—what he said, what I know in detail from the statement that the Italian paper published—really accords with reality.

[Hollauer] So are there no troop concentrations—either Soviet or Hungarian—along the Romanian border?

[Karpati] Look, it is a very positive step; I do not know why—out of fear or malice—there are attempts to distort it. It is an extremely positive thing that in a quite wide zone from the western border, the Soviet troops have either been withdrawn from the country, they have been taken home, demobilized, or they have been taken to other parts of the country. I have to say that the numbers that have been assigned to various other parts of the country are small; most of these troops have been withdrawn.

[Hollauer] In your view, is a military conflict between Warsaw Pact countries conceivable in principle or in practice?

[Karpati] I entirely rule it out. There is no basis for this in current political circumstances and international conditions. In fact, it causes serious damage to (?raise) such issues in a wider circle.

Nemeth Interviewed on Authority Over Forces

LD0107093489 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0430 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Who in Hungary has control over the levers of power, and within this, the armed force organizations? More precisely, who directs the police, the military, and the Workers' Guard? Miklos Nemeth replies to this question from (Attila Melykuti) in MAGYAR NEMZET. The premier said that after last year's party conference, Karoly Grosz created a body which, apart from representatives of the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of the Interior, also includes the national commander of the Workers' Guard and other officials. However, this committee is not a decisionmaking forum. Otherwise, as it emerges from the interview, the MSZMP general secretary does not have command over the Armed Forces and bodies.

As regards the much-disputed supervision over the Workers' Guard, the premier stated that the body unequivocally comes under the Council of Ministers. Then, to the question put in the introduction, regarding who is the commander in chief of the Hungarian Armed Forces, Miklos Nemeth gave the suprising reply that it is not possible at present to give an unequivocal reply to this. Owing to not personnel, but political and state law considerations, the designation is not precisely demarcated between the state president and the premier.

Nemeth Interview on Strength of Reform

LD3006174189 Budapest MTI in English 1535 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Paris, June 30 (MTI)—'Nothing can stop the Hungarian reforms. The HSWP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party], which is undergoing renewal, is optimistic about the results of the free elections, Hungarian prime minister, Miklos Nemeth, member of the HSWP Presidium, told "LE FIGARO" journalists.

Mr Nemeth went on to say that the HSWP is in the process of a far-reaching transformation, and reform advocates are getting the upper hand in the party.

"This implies that, by the time of the elections, the HSWP will be able to meet the challenge of its rivals, and communists will have a good chance of victory...It is still our party that is the most organized today, and what it says is most heeded by the masses. In view of these factors, should the party lose the elections, there is no one to blame but the party itself...I myself am convinced that our renewed and reformist party needn't worry about the elections. And if we reap 40 percent of all votes, then we'll be in a good position for a coalition."

On Hungary's foreign policy situation and endeavours, the prime minister said that, "in such a small country as Hungary, it is not sufficient to express the desire for neutrality. I am convinced, however, that neutrality can be achieved through the gradual elimination of military blocs." Miklos Nemeth was referring to an announcement by Eduard Shevardnadze, Soviet minister for foreign affairs, according to which all military units stationed abroad are to be withdrawn by 1995 or 2000. He added that Hungary would like to see the withdrawal happen as soon as possible, but this is "one of the stakes of the negotiations between the two military blocs."

Further Reportage on National Assembly Session

Penal Code Change Reported

LD3006170389 Budapest MTI in English
1411 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Budapest, June 30 (MTI)—At the Friday session of Hungarian Parliament, Minister of Justice Kalman Kulcsar read out his report on the modification of the penal code.

Parliament's task is to discuss and assess the consequences of the defence law with its regulation falling in the scope of the penal code, and of the transformation of the economic order of the country. People who choose to carry out civilian service should not be subject to penal disadvantages or be placed in an advantageous position compared to those who carry out armed or unarmed military service. We have put forward that civilian service is also to be protected by a criminal provision. It aims to take criminal action against everyone who attempt to dodge civilian service and attempts to prevent others from carrying out these duties.

Penalties will not affect those who do not carry out the functions enshrined in the law. As no conscientious objection can be raised against civilian service, as no reason can be imagined that prevents anyone from serving his country with carrying out civilian duties, we cannot do other than work out a penal provision to sanction those who refuse to carry out such service.

It should also be reflected in the new penal provision that those who had earlier been convicted by former penal provisions should not suffer further disadvantages. Therefore, the law itself exempts people who were convicted for refusing military service from all detrimental legal consequences, said the minister of justice.

National Assembly Session Ends

LD3006170589 Budapest MTI in English
1440 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Budapest, June 30 (MTI)—With answers to interpellations and a question time for MP's, the session of Hungarian Parliament drew to an end in Budapest on Friday afternoon. As announced by speaker Matyas Szuros, the next session is to be held in the second half of September.

Draft Resolution Approved

LD3006203589 Budapest MTI in English
1649 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Budapest, June 30 (MTI)—After questions and interpellations had been answered, Matyas Szuros put the draft resolution of the ad hoc committee revising parliament's schedule to the vote. Accordingly, parliament approves that the Council of Ministers should put forward the crucial draft laws related to constitutionalization, with the agreements reached at the talks between the HSWP [Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party], the opposition roundtable and the social organizations on the third side taken into account.

On this score, Csaba Bodonyi, MP for Borsod-Abauj-Zemplen county, said that the inter-party political talks would put an end to the legitimacy of parliament, since the latter would only accept agreements reached at the political coordination talks. He proposed that MPs should also receive, and the parliamentary committees discuss, material from the talks, and that some representatives of Parliament should take part in the political talks.

Mr Szuros did not regard the proposal as a matter of procedure, and added that the issue had been clarified on the first day. He emphasized that parliament would continue to discuss all draft laws profoundly and not simply rubber-stamp the agreements reached at the political coordination talks. Finally, the draft resolution of the ad hoc committee was approved with two votes against and 14 abstentions.

Parliament approved a declaration greeting the bicentenary of the French revolution and the French people.

Before closing the session, Mr Szuros announced that parliament would be convened again for late September.

Leaders Interviewed During Parliament Recess

AU2906144389 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP
in Hungarian 28 Jun 89 p 3

[Interview with Premier Miklos Nemeth, MSZMP Chairman Rezso Nyers, and Minister of State Imre Pozsgay by correspondent Zoltan Lovas: "Three Out of the Four Give an Interview—Everyone Does It Differently"—during a National Assembly break, on 27 June]

[Text] The coordinating activity of the national roundtable has lessened the work of the current National Assembly. Thus, the breaks between the sessions have also become longer and the politicians have become more available for interviews. We succeeded in briefly interviewing the three leaders of the new three-plus-one top leadership of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] in the corridors of the Parliament building. Of course, we discussed the recent changes in the party leadership from the viewpoint of the National Assembly and the government, as required by the location.

The Premier....

[Lovas] Lajos Fur, one of the leaders of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, said that your acceptance of a role in the top four-man leadership of the MSZMP practically contradicts your previous statements, and this represents a renewed convergence between the party and the state....

Nemeth: I will participate in the top leadership as one of the party's politicians, and neither the 21-member Political Executive Committee nor the four-member Presidium will or can make any decision that would limit or influence the independence and action of the government....

[Lovas] Will they not make such decisions, or will they not be able to make such decisions?

Nemeth: They will not make such decisions, and they will also be unable to make such decisions.

[Lovas] However, if these bodies happen to make such a decision, then would you not regard it as compulsory for you to do so too?

Nemeth: Not at all.

[Lovas] Humanly speaking, are you not in a schizophrenic situation, being both here and there?

Nemeth: After all, I am a member of the MSZMP, and the Central Committee decided that I also had a place in the current substantial compromise, in the coordination of trends, and in creating unity. This explains my participation in the four-man leadership, and it is not our intention to restore the party state.

The Party Chairman....

[Lovas] It has been discussed in the Parliament today that you will leave the government because of your assignment as party chairman.

Rezso Nyers: Yes, that is true....

[Lovas] At the same time, both Imre Pozsgay and Miklos Nemeth could also leave the government because they are also members of the four-member top body of the party. Is that not right?

Rezso Nyers: I have become the independent chairman of the MSZMP, and that is why I am leaving the government.

[Lovas] Who will continue to carry out your present job as minister of state in the government, namely to prepare and inspire the economic reform processes? Will some new body take over this activity?

Rezso Nyers: According to the initial concepts, as a National Assembly deputy, I would continue to lead the reform committee of the Parliament, and thus, my work in this respect would continue.

The Future President of the Republic?

[Lovas] Rezso Nyers will leave the government because of his participation in the top leadership of the party. On such a basis, both you and Miklos Nemeth could also leave the government....

Imre Pozsgay: No, not at all. The party chairman has more specific tasks and great international responsibilities. These are official tasks that require a full-time job, not only political tasks. Therefore, Rezso Nyers had to decide in this way. This is the way he thought was correct. The premier and the other minister of state—namely, myself—decided to participate in political decisions, but by all means we will continue our government jobs until the MSZMP congress. Our future tasks depend on the political developments and on future programs. As is already well-known to the public, the Central Committee assigned me to struggle through this political stage as a presidential nominee, if a law on establishing the function of president of the republic is enacted.

[Lovas] Let us presume that you will struggle through this political stage and you will be elected as president of the Republic. Will you then preserve your membership in the MSZMP?

Imre Pozsgay: I will preserve my membership, but I will not be able to fulfill a party function. Both the Constitution and the draft law on the president of the Republic stipulate this. According to the plans, all of the other parties will also be able to nominate candidates. However, the future law will obviously stipulate that the president of the Republic should not be led by party or organizational considerations. He will have to have an authority that goes beyond this....

[Lovas] In other words, your traditional membership in a centrally guided MSZMP would not be honestly in harmony with your function as president of the Republic....

Imre Pozsgay: Indeed, this would not be honest and it would precisely contradict the national requirements connected with the function of president. However, in many parts of the world there are presidents who did not break the contacts with their parties, but they do not conduct a party policy and do not fulfill party functions.

[Lovas] From your point of view, this entire thing has its own curious feature, namely that, as a minister of state, you are now cutting out a garment, namely the draft law on the establishment of the function of president of the Republic, which you could perhaps wear in the future....

Imre Pozsgay: No. The way this garment is being cut does not depend on my will, as I am only one deputy in this National Assembly. This entire body will create this law.

Berecz Statement on Foreign Policy Appointment

LD3006143889 Budapest MTI in English
1156 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Budapest, June 30 (MTI)—After the Friday session of the Foreign Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly, Janos Berecz, newly elected chairman of the body gave MTI the following statement:

"I am happy with today's decision of the Foreign Committee which appointed me the leader of a committee that has a great weight and influence in politics. This is not a formal and representative function, but a responsible post in an ambitious committee which dictates a fast pace.

"Over the past two of three years, since the landmark in the activity of the National Assembly, the work of the Foreign Affairs Committee has gone through a significant change, with the body beginning to shape its own profile and political line, not only keeping up existing friendly relations to serve the approachment of nations and the reinforcement of peace. I especially appreciate the achievements of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the European region. It has not only supported, but also actively contributed to the Helsinki process, with special regard to its relations with the European Council and its direct contribution to the building of the European house. Therefore, I think the task of the new chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs is not to implement a change, but to continue with developing good relations which ensure the confidence of the people."

Pozsgay, Independent Deputy Benjamin Interviewed

LD0207032289 Budapest Domestic Service
in Hungarian 1400 GMT 1 Jul 89

[From the "168 Hours" program]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] [Passage omitted] This week parliament was captivated. This was alleged by a deputy, since it was agreed at the political conciliation discussions that the so-called cardinal draft bills affecting the country's destiny would be submitted before the esteemed house only after the meeting of the trilateral forum. [passage omitted]

The following two interviews are with Judit Benjamin, member of the group of independent deputies, and with Imre Pozsgay, minister of state, member of the MSZMP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] Presidium. The correspondent is Eszter Radai.

[Radai] Judit Benjamin, were you not surprised by the National Assembly's submissiveness, and that of the deputies, regarding the latest developments?

[Benjamin] I was surprised above all by that part of the agreement between the MSZMP and the opposition parties relating to the future situation of parliament, namely that, beside upholding the absolute responsibility of parliament, they reserve themselves the right and the possibility of determining its content. [passage omitted] This has created an unacceptable situation for parliament.

[Radai] Why? What has happened? Actually, all that has happened is that, finally, it has been officially stated that this parliament is not legitimate.

[Benjamin] There is no doubt about that. And I say that we have to take notice of this. This issue has to be resolved, with a new election, and I do not know what obstacle there can be to that.

[Radai] The obstacle simply is that there is no electoral law, which only parliament can enact.

[Benjamin] There is no doubt about that. So my view is that since this Parliament really does not reflect the present-day political articulation of the country, the political forces should agree on an electoral law. [passage omitted]

[Radai] Imre Pozsgay, were you not surprised at the submissiveness of the National Assembly, of the deputies? In fact, the opposition roundtable employed a very similar argument when the discussions broke off with the MSZMP, and a very similar proposal to what Judit Benjamin has been speaking about, namely that the conciliation discussions should have no other topic, no other object, than preparation for the election, and that in fact the opposition roundtable was giving in to the other social organizations and the MSZMP when it allowed other issues to be placed on the agenda of the conciliation talks. This is the schedule which places the National Assembly in this situation.

[Pozsgay] I would not describe this as a concession. What is more, others have even said that it was the MSZMP that was making concessions when...

[Radai, interrupting] It was a compromise. As a matter of fact, everyone was making concessions...

[Pozsgay, interrupting] ...when it agreed that cardinal bills would not be put before parliament by circumventing the conciliation talks. Therefore, what came into being here was a reciprocal concession, if I may use this expression, or rather a substantial compromise. And every side has ideas to bring to the bargaining table. I believe that all this will have to depend on the outcome of the talks. However, I too would like to say that without doubt the major object of this conciliation discussion is the preparation of elections, moreover precisely from the viewpoint that there should come into being, if possible by way of legislation as well, but at all events amid political conditions, an atmosphere of trust where the contestants, renouncing force and the acquisition of power monopolies, shall take part in the elections with equal chances for winning the trust of the electing citizens.

[Radai] But there are those deputies who draw the obvious conclusion that this parliament should dissolve itself.

[Pozsgay] This National Assembly cannot dissolve itself until it adopts a new electoral law. This is the paradox of the situation. Now then, if the country's public opinion accepts it, and the political negotiating sides also accept that this Parliament has the right to adopt the electoral law, which is a radical law of a constitutional character, then who can question its authorization to enact other laws? After the revolution of 15 March 1848, the most wonderful European laws, which sanctioned the achievements of the revolution, were passed by the National Assembly of the previous order. And today, that National Assembly is one of our proud points of reference because the revolution in Hungary occurred peacefully and in a legalized process. I would think of this, too, in the place of Judit Benjamin, in the place of other fellow deputies, where this task has to be resolved, in this anguished period of negotiation.

Another thing: When nowadays people mention the experiences, the political lessons of that glorious age, they often quote Kossuth [leader of the 1848 war of independence], who said that wise policy is not one that resists what is unavoidable, but one that goes out to meet it. One must now take part in the political process. This is the essence: to take part and to act. If the conditions of participation and action exist, then it is the person who withdraws from this who does not behave responsibly. As for how the future will judge us, perhaps that will also depend to a large extent on what we commit ourselves to in these days, in these weeks.

[Radai] Forgive me, I will now speak about my own feelings. Your reply to Deputy Bertalan Suedi, namely that now we have to adapt to history, does it literally...

[Pozsgay, interrupting] I said something to the effect that the National Assembly may have a timetable but history does not; for this reason perhaps we should now be adapting to history.

[Radai] If you tell me that now, then you make the words stick in my mouth. So, it seems to me that these moral allusions supress the people's self-tormenting doubts, which originate in some high morality, some kind of greater, higher sense of responsibility. In other words...

[Pozsgay, interrupting] But I was not passing judgment, because I am not in a position to do so. I was presenting an argument, behind which there are historical experiences. Sometimes history does not even give parliaments time to think. The fourth Russian state duma constituted one of the most reactionary bodies of Europe; and when the situation in the streets of Petrograd changed, when the existing regime was swept aside, this reactionary body within 5 minutes ratified all the revolutionary laws. We would like to have planned parliamentary work, not results achieved in some groundswell, and under some kind of pressure from the street. And here the government was offering these possibilities, and I think that this joint possibility of ours really will create the peaceful transition to the constitutional state, even if, perhaps for a time, precisely under the influence of the fresh experiences, we shall not be spoken of as the parliament of fairest memory. I too am a member of this National Assembly. I do not think that I could personallly withdraw myself from such influence, but I am authorized to present my arguments.

Pozsgay on Democratic Movement Principles

LD0107160489 Budapest MTI in English 2047 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Budapest, June 30 (MTI)—The founding rally of the Movement for a Democratic Hungary is to be held in September, not early July as originally scheduled, said Minister of State Imre Pozsgay, member of the preparatory committee of the movement.

He added that the rally could not be organized in a matter of a few days, since there are so many applicants and the founding declaration and the rules still have to be prepared.

Mr Pozsgay pointed out that the movement welcomes the fact that the various political forces are seeking to create the confidence required for free elections in the current phase of legislation. He added that the movement would not like to take part in the elections, but seeks to monitor their impartiality. The movement advocates peaceful transition. Although it is not thinking in party dimensions, it welcomes both members of the various parties and non-party people among is ranks.

Professor Ferenc Gazso, member of the Preparatory Committee, said that the movement reckons on the people who are not affiliated to any party but wish to take part in policy-making. The movement will become viable if it also takes part in shaping local society. Many people are joining the movement with just this intention, he said.

Professor Mihaly Bihari, member of the preparatory committee, said that the movement is a left-wing endeavour in the European sense which will be manifest in the founding declaration as well. Those who cannot accept freedom-principled socialism in the long run, but are ready to work for a democratic Hungary are also welcomed in the movement.

Foreign Minister Continues Austria Visit

Cuts Border Fence

AU2706171789 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1600 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Christian Schueller report]

[Text] Quite a lot of imagination is required today to understand what the fence between Austrian and Hungary meant for decades to the people on the other side: a weapon of deterrence that would curb the people's desire for freedom. Today the double fence, located 2 and ½ kms from the border near Sopron, appears to be harmless. The wires are no longer electrified. The barbed wire, arranged behind the electrified wire, which was designed to protect the electrified fence from animals, will also be dismantled by border guards today. The soldiers, however, are in no hurry.

Upon the arrival of Foreign Minister Mock and his Hungarian counterpart Gyula Horn, the excavators are set in motion. The two politicians are given large scissors after they have, with great pleasure, put on large working gloves. The wire that used to be electrified day and night is cut at various points.

This is not the first time Hungary has demonstrated the dismantling of the Iron Curtain to the Western public. However, this act of detente, which was witnessed by the public, is unparalleled within the East Bloc.

[Begin Mock recording] This is the most beautiful moment in my political and diplomatic career. This is a window to the future. This gives rise to the great hope that one day, in a few years' time, the things that divide us, such as walls and barbed wires, will disappear throughout the whole of Europe. [end recording]

This positive development, however, is overshadowed by the establishment of other fences taking place on the border between Hungary and Romania. As a matter of fact, Bucharest has announced that the new Iron Curtain at Romania's border with Hungary is being dismantled again. However, journalists who visited the region a few days ago had different impressions.

Meets With Waldheim

AU2806095189 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 28 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] Yesterday President Kurt Waldheim received Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, who is paying an official visit to Austria. The reception was attended by Hungarian Ambassador to Austria Janos Nagy and Austrian Ambassador to Hungary Franz Schmid.

After the very frank talk with Horn, which took about 1 hour, President Waldheim said that he had dispelled Hungary's concerns concerning a "change in political course" if Austria joins the EC. "Austria's function as a bridge between East and West" will "only be intensified" because of its EC policy, the president stated. The Hungarian foreign minister affirmed Hungary's intention to consistently follow the path that has been embarked upon. "Hungary's political future," however, is still uncertain, Horn said.

In his statements on detente between the superpowers, the Hungarian foreign minister reportedly said that the Hungarian reform process has been "promoted by the new Soviet policy." According to Horn, Hungary considers itself a "central European country" that was "pushed toward the East" by the division of Europe.

In the economic area Horn "very clearly" spoke up in favor of the importance of market economy principles. He also welcomed the "flourishing private trade," which has been highly stimulated by Hungarian and Austrian tourists in the two countries, the president said.

Horn stated that Romania's policy toward the Hungarian minorities is "unpredictable." Horn was not informed on the "tearing down" of the "Iron Curtain" that has been recently erected by Romania at the Hungarian-Romanian border, "but he was pleased about this step." In this connection, Hungary also paid tribute to Austria's critical attitude on this issue, which was expressed at the latest Paris human rights conference, Waldheim said.

Protocol With Iran on Intensifying Cooperation

LD0207154489 Budapest MTI in English 1435 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Text] Budapest, July 2 (MTI)—Ferenc Horvath, Hungarian minister of industry, and Issa Kalantari, minister of agriculture of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the co-chairmen of the Hungarian-Iranian Joint Committee, signed a protocol on Sunday on intensifying cooperation between the two countries. The sides reviewed possibilities to further develop Hungarian-Iranian industrial and energetics cooperation.

The Iranian minister met Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth, Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, and Minister of Culture Ferenc Glatz. The Iranian minister left Budapest on Sunday.

Police Official Interview on Intelligence Service

AU3006103289 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 26 Jun 89 p 5

5[Interview with Police Major General Ferenc Pallagi, deputy minister of interior, by Peter Balla: "Mean Spies and Intelligence Heroes—Public Intelligence Service?"—date, place not given]

[Text] The memoirs of General Pacepa, the Romanian spy chief who emigrated to the United States, have become a bestseller on the Hungarian market. Biographies and memoirs written mainly by discredited foreign or honorably retired intelligence men have also been published.

The structure and operation of the Hungarian intelligence service were perhaps the most carefully kept secrets of past decades. For reasons of greater freedom and an increased awareness as a taxpayer, I would like to know what our intelligence service is doing and how it is managing with its power. Therefore, I interviewed Ferenc Pallagi, who has been the head of the Hungarian state security service since May 1989.

[Balla] There are people who still regard the state security services as the successor of the former state security authorities. To what extent is this true?

[Pallagi] Unfortunately, there is no doubt that the state security authority was the most hated institution in Hungary in the fifties, and with justification. I will mention very quietly that this authority was not exclusively a means of enforcing the dictatorship at that time either. There was also intelligence and counterintelligence at that time because, in the prevailing international situation, the foreign intelligence services were much more active than they are today. By 1962, we succeeded in completely purging our organization of the former intelligence cadres. As a result, lawfulness increased somewhat, but state security continued to operate within the framework of the party state. In my view, the decisive turning point occurred after the party conference in 1988.

It Is Not a Means of Regression

[Balla] It would not be possible for any considerable breakthrough to take place in this short period of a few months. According to what concept are you shaping your activity anew?

[Pallagi] The state security services should increasingly acquire the nature of national security. On the basis of the new Constitution and the public laws coming in force, we should build an organization that guarantees the safety of citizens and institutions. Our most important task is to discover and prevent those actions that could disturb the period of peaceful transition, no matter from which side they might come.

[Balla] Many people in Hungary are afraid of a possible return to the old way of things. The previous and often infamous role of the state security service raises the following question: Who can guarantee that it does not again become a means of repression in the hands of a party state?

[Pallagi] Obviously, today there are only political guarantees against such a return, and we still lack the legal guarantees. However, it is an important fact that the Ministry of Interior, including the intelligence service, ceased to be under the direct control of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] in November 1988. As a result, the conditions of state security activity being organized on an ideological basis ceased to exist. I am convinced that today's state security service would no longer be a suitable means of returning to the old way of things.

[Balla] You mentioned the lack of legal guarantees. A legal regulation has been controlling your basic tasks ever since 1974. What legitimacy did this activity have prior to 1974?

[Pallagi] Until 1974, there was no separate regulation dealing with the state security activity. Beginning with the sixties, the functioning of the state apparatus in Hungary was generally characterized by legality, in our case without legal norms. A series of government regulations and internal guidelines were issued for the implementation of the legal regulation enacted in 1974. In accordance with the doctrines of that time, these regulations were not openly published. Unfortunately, this practice continues today, and no matter how regulated our internal system has become, almost nobody is aware of this.

[Balla] The upcoming modification of the penal code will considerably reduce the sphere of crimes that are considered to be committed against the state, and the subsequent punishment will also decrease considerably. Within the state security service, the special state security investigation departments received perhaps the greatest amount of criticism, often from the colleagues themselves. Do we need such bodies that bring bad memories?

[Pallagi] I must correct you here: There is only one state security investigation department in Budapest, and we have state security investigating officers at the county police headquarters. However, this does not affect the essential thing: This form has become completely obsolete and we will eliminate it. There is justification for using state security methods only in the operative and intelligence stage. Investigation activity that has been separated from the secret service can be included in the ordinary system of criminal investigation.

[Balla] One of the areas of your activity is the so-called averting of domestic reactionary forces. The "targets" of the past, and even of yesterday have ceased to exist, and people formerly under surveillance have now become members or leaders of various parties. Whom do you continue to regard as potentially dangerous for the regime?

[Pallagi] By now, we have already overcome the "trauma." We had to do away with the Stalinist model of a total [word as received] system which paranoically regarded everyone as an internal enemy. In the meantime, the name of averting domestic reactionary forces has changed, and the content is also changing. We are already trying to think in terms of a multiparty system and a coalition. We are no longer fighting against views and ideas. However, we will continue to fight against those who violate the constitutional and legal order. Although the new constitution and the party law are still being worked out, it is clear that all those who try to forcibly obtain power are dangerous for our internal security. The state security service fulfills its function if it is objective and impartial. In other words, we should fight not only the neofascist groups but also the extreme left-wing trends, if they do not observe the constitutional rules of the game. In addition, the internal security service also fulfills specific peaceful tasks.

The Danger of Terrorism

[Balla] Could you give us an example?

[Pallagi] Fortunately, no disturbances occurred at the funeral of Imre Nagy and his martyr associates on 16 June. Organization was primarily the work of the Committee for Historical Justice, but we also helped at the request of the committee, because at such a mass demonstration the danger of provocation is inevitable. Our people tried to filter out every circumstance that might cause disturbance weeks before the event.

[Balla] What are the relations of the Hungarian intelligence service with the foreign services operating in countries with an identical social order? To what extent does our membership in the Warsaw Pact question your independence?

[Pallagi] The security services of the Warsaw Pact countries do not operate in the form of an integration, particularly not in an integration led by the KGB. The bilateral cooperation agreements refer to exchanges of experience and working methods and the mutual exchange of scientific and technical knowledge. These contacts are only conceivable on a mutual basis. We are not a "subsidiary" of any foreign service. Every security service, including the Hungarian intelligence service, should increasingly serve its own national goals at present, and even more so in the future. The international political interests and efforts of the Hungarian People's Republic represent the most important norm for us.

[Balla] Among the countries of the socialist camp, not everyone welcomes the social and political processes currently under way in Hungary. Does the Romanian intelligence service, the Securitate, create work for Hungarian counterintelligence? Are the people who have resettled from Romania in danger?

[Pallagi] I thought you would ask this question. Earlier, Romania was one of our friends and allies. Obviously, the 180 degree turn in Romanian policy also caused a certain amount of confusion and surprise in our organization. All our contacts with the Romanian authorities broke off, and an undeclared confrontation emerged between the two intelligence services. As for the question of refugees, it is difficult to provide an answer somewhat in harmony with the situation and opinions prevailing in society. Obviously, there is real justification for fears, but investigations carried out so far have not found any specific, checked, and proven cases. It is possible that this also reflects our weakness. In any case, we should strengthen our defense and counterintelligence activity in this area. Prevention should be more efficient and lead to actual results.

[Balla] For a long time, the Western "special services" were necessarily the enemies of the Hungarian intelligence service. Today, can one imagine a cooperation with western-European or U.S. colleagues in certain areas of activity?

[Pallagi] International terrorism is the only area in which we are systematically cooperating today. The Hungarian security services are playing a role in reconnaissance and prevention. Unfortunately, terrorism does not stop at the borders, and thus, it is in our well-understood interest to cooperate. Personally, I do not think that further close contacts are a utopia, from an ideological, political, or professional viewpoint. I consider cooperation to be possible in the current international situation, if this is in harmony with the foreign policy interests of the Hungarian People's Republic. We are not talking here about revealing our internal secrets. Our protected information will continue to be secret, but we could make good use of a mutual exchange of experience and knowledge. Besides, in intelligence work neither the methods nor the technique is secret, but the direction of using them.

Legal Guarantees

[Balla] By its nature, the activity of the intelligence service is not open to the public. However, what are the things that citizens should know?

[Pallagi] The lack of publicity is perhaps our greatest moral burden, and this "secrecy" today covers the entire service. So far, no picture whatsoever could emerge about the real efficiency of our organization. The crimes committed against the state make up only some thousandth of the discovered crimes published annually. Therefore, anyone can ask himself what we are actually doing then. The reconnaissance and prevention activities of the state security service are not spectacular, but they are inevitable for the benefit of honest goals. It is a justified demand of society to strip this service of its past mystique and make its activity more public and more legitimate. It is important that society know, judge, and evaluate our activity. Regulations in this respect should be further perfected in way that will completely exclude the possibility of abuse.

[Balla] How far has the legislation activity on the state security advanced, and what major principles does this legislation follow?

[Pallagi] The demand of a constitutional state is also decisive in this area. The creation of new regulations concerning state security is perhaps the most urgent task in this process. This activity has already begun. We are participating in this activity and we are trying also to make use of the relevant Western experience. Legal regulations will also provide guarantees and opportunities of appeals. It is similarly important to make these basic regulations public and available to anyone. Similar to the practice in the FRG, the Parliament and its relevant committees should also play a role in supervising national security activity. The use of so-called secret means should also be stipulated by regulations, all the more so because, at present, the court does not accept this evidence. Supervision of justice administration is essential in a system of guarantees, particularly in the case of measures that limit citizens' rights.

Freemason Forum To Be Held in 'Early July'

25000334 Budapest MAGYARORSZAG in Hungarian 23 Jun 89 p 29

[Interview with Laszlo Marton, leader of the Hungarian Freemason Lodge in Paris, by Gyorgy Vamos: "The Lodge of Goodness"—date, place not given]

[Text] The 19th district of Paris still projects the old mood of the French capital. The dark, musty entrance of one of the outmoded buildings would mislead the wanderer who still stops short of going in. He is correct if he does not stop: a path across the inner courtyard leads to an ultramodern, partially unfinished building. Laszlo Marton, leader of the Hungarian Freemason Lodge in Paris, lives there. His first thought, too, signals this duality—the intertwining of the old and the new.

[Marton] The Masonic movement has been functioning in its present form for two and a half centuries. And although we, too, consider the medieval builders of cathedrals—or even the masons of Jerusalem's Temple of Solomon—our predecessors, our modern goal is to unite all persons of good will and good moral conduct. Beyond contradictions, we are seeking the common denominator. Our members work to improve mankind. Our awareness of the fact that we are not the only ones who do this is self-evident: virtually all progressive movements put this idea on their banners.

Hoods—No Longer

[MAGYARORSZAG] How would you define yourselves conceptually?

[Marton] We are not a political party, we do not intend to acquire power anywhere. Freemasonry is not a religion because it does not bind its members by requiring that they profess a certain faith or believe in any kind of dogma. And quite naturally, contrary to reports, we are neither a Mafia nor an economic interest group. We are trying to spread good will in the world, supporting all humanitarian and social endeavors.

[MAGYARORSZAG] Only Freemasons whose native language is Hungarian and who reside in Paris are members of the lodge you preside over?

[Marton] Yes, but let me dispel a misunderstanding. The Martinovics Lodge, which enshrines the name and ideals of this outstanding Freemason personality of Hungarian history, was formed in 1956. The year is a coincidence, because those who established this lodge had already lived in France prior to 1956. One could say that at most, those who met together preserved in their hearts the spirit of the first Transylvanian and Northern Hungarian lodges. In this way, beyond the general ideals of Freemasonry, we also cultivate Hungarian traditions. And so does the second generation, the one that presently pursues the work of Freemasonry.

[MAGYARORSZAG] Do you communicate in Hungarian?

[Marton] We established that rule well in advance, although it is unavoidable that we communicate certain matters in French. Our lodge has 30 members. Most of our French sister lodges operate with 60-70 members. A recent survey shows that some 70,000 Freemasons are active in France.

[MAGYARORSZAG] What are the activities of the Martinovics lodge in Paris?

[Marton] The practice of participants meeting bi-weekly in closed meetings has evolved within the Freemason movement following Latin traditions. Our meetings have a ritual which is strictly prescribed. In addition, we have lectures at every meeting. These lectures are given by our members, based on sophisticated intellectual criteria. They deal with various problems, which are open for debate following the lectures.

[MAGYARORSZAG] Can you let us in on the ritual?

[Marton] Hoods, torches, mysteries no longer exist. Those never existed insofar as we are concerned. Even the torch served only to recall our predecessors' traditions prior to the introduction of electicity. But our other rites are secret. Our meetings provide nourishment not only for the mind, but also for the soul, and even for the emotions. Anyway, modern psychology has proven that every human group needs a form in which a cohesive community can express itself. It is this form we call rite. I can say this much: this rite does not invoke the past, but fits well into today's world.

Moral Sophistication

[MAGYARORSZAG] Could I join this lodge?

[Marton] If you lived here, you would have to make a written application. After that the lodge would pass a resolution on whether you, the so-called "seeker," may or may not continue. If the answer is yes, you would be interviewed by three of our examining commissioners, and you would be invited to our circle only after the third commissioner had decided in the affirmative. At that point you would be initiated. The process takes a few months. We are so strict about this because anyone who becomes a Freemason remains a Freemason for the rest of his life. Accordingly, the lodge must know exactly who is knocking on its door, and the seeker must understand what he can expect when he joins our circle.

[MAGYARORSZAG] What moral and intellectual conditions are there?

[Marton] We do not establish intellectual conditions. Any man of good will and of unimpeachable moral conduct is worthy of membership. We do not set any religious, racial, or ideological criteria.

[MAGYARORSZAG] Do you accept women?

[Marton] You see, now you caught me. Women cannot become our fellow members. there are lodges which accept women too, but our order is part of the so-called French grand lodges, where male membership is a tradition. Incidentally, there are some exclusively female lodges. They seek the light in their own separate ways.

[MAGYARORSZAG] How should this light be understood?

[Marton] We have not yet found the light, consequently I cannot define it. But we are seeking it; the path itself is important to us. This path is one of kindness, human dignity, decency, preparedness to help, and sophisticated work.

[MAGYARORSZAG] Do you give lectures?

[Marton] Freemasons are discreet about their personal lives. I have no right to state that the guideline of others' lives is the seeking of light. As far as I am concerned, I may tell you about my goals. This problem will be the topic of my next lecture—expressed in sophisticated terms: the essential ideal of the great builder of the universe. Incidentally, the "great builder of the universe" is not identical with God, or more precisely, with the concept of a deity. On the contrary, it expresses doubt in that respect. After all, humanity is developing though science, but doubt is implicit in science. Man must not regard himself as the center of the universe. He cannot say that he is ruling nature. We acknowledge our weakness, our imperfection. The light we are seeking does not necessarily radiate from Man. At the same time, however, we are unable to tell where that light comes from. This is what distinguishes us from religions. We are trying to understand Man and his world through its own contradictions.

[MAGYARORSZAG] What is the agenda of these meetings?

[Marton] We argue intensively, but we do not fight. Our members may have different views concerning society, politics, philisophy, or religion; everyone may express his views and may make an attmept to convince the others, but we do not vote, the majority decides nothing. We leave it to the individual as to whether he agrees with another's viewpoint. And, of equal importance, we take every view seriously. If you were to ask me what I have learned during my nearly two decades of Freemasonry past, I would say this: I have learned mainly to listen calmly to viewpoints which are the direct opposite of my convictions. Freemasonry is the most outstanding school for democratic conduct and tolerance.

Living for Each Other

[MAGYARORSZAG] What is your "civilian" occupation?

[Marton] I have a prosaic profession: I am a marketing consultant and a teacher at the academy.

[MAGYARORSZAG] And the other members of the lodge?

[Marton] We do not reflect French society, but rather the Hungarian community of Paris. Three members of our lodge are manual laborers, and we have artists, researchers, and highly educated members of the intelligentsia. We learn a great deal from each other.

[MAGYARORSZAG] Do the members of the Martinovics lodge meet outside of the lodge?

[Marton] Every Freemason lodge including ours has an elected official whose exclusive function it is to deal with the members' families. He watches those who are in trouble and who need help. At the end of each meeting we pass around a wooden box. Anyone can put any kind of recommendation or request into it, anonymously, of course. Solidarity is quite strong among us. It has happened several times that someone has become unemployed. At that time we have done everything to find a secure livelihood for such persons. We have supported them jointly for as long as they were unemployed. There is also room for private contact in this framework. Freemasonry would be inconceivable without elementary solidarity.

[MAGYARORSZAG] On 12 June 1950 the Minister of the Interior prohibited the existence of Freemason lodges in Hungary. As far as you know, are there Freemasons in your native Hungary?

[Marton] This suspension either has been reviewed already, or a review is in progress. Even today, there are Freemasons in Hungary, old and young, but there is no organized, regular Freemason activity. We are performing "white work," in the open, and we do not want to have an illegal lodge as our partner. If I am correct, a Freemason forum will be held in Budapest in early July 1989—a forum in which the members of the lodge and others may make public presentations.

Interview With President Bush on Aims of Visit

LD0307142189 Warsaw PAP in English 1310 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 3—U.S. President George Bush received in the White House Oval Office on June 30 special correspondent of the "POLITYKA" weekly Daniel Passent, Polonian journalist from the New York-based "NOWY DZIENNIK" (NEW DAILY) Andrzej Krajewski who represented the "GAZETA WYBORCZA" Solidarnosc daily and Washington correspondent of the "TRYBUNA LUDU" PUWP daily Zygmunt Broniarek.

In an interview granted to the three journalists, President Bush said that the goal of his visit to Poland in to show American interest in Poland, to back Poland's intentions to improve its relations with the United States and with the West in general.

Stressing that the visit is not aimed to complicate the Soviet-Polish relations, the President said that it is in tune with his opinion that Europe should be united and free and with his intention to welcome the changes in Poland. He also expressed his visit would contribute to seeking greater range of democracy and economic reforms by Poland.

While denying intentions to influence the shape of reforms in Poland, George Bush stated that he felt encouraged by the changes in this country.

Speaking on the Soviet troops in Poland, the President said that he would like to see them withdrawn as there is no danger of invasion against Poland from the West. He added he would like to see the continuation of changes in Poland follow such a course that would make the Soviet Union feel at ease while withdrawing its troops.

President Bush declared his intention to help Poland economically but he saw some difficulties in that as in his opinion the concept of reforms has to gain full support from the international, financial institutions.

Continuation of the present reforms and their expansion with a view to making the economic system operate without any disturbances contitute, in the President's opinion, the key to the problem.

Admitting the existence of various problems in the U.S., George Bush said that his country would like to share with Poland its experiences in enjoying freedom of travel, freedom of speech, of associating, of expressing political views and added that this spirit would prevail during his visit to Poland.

Jaruzelski Chooses Not To Run for President

LD3006190189 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] In connection with the preparations for the first parliamentary session, joint plenary deliberations of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee and the PZPR parliamentary party began in Warsaw. At the beginning of the session, Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, gave the following statement:

The Politburo asked me to agree to put forward my candidacy at the national assembly for the post of president of the Polish People's Republic. A similar intention was expressed by our coalition allies. I highly value these proposals. I see in them not only the expression of trust in myself but, most of all, the manifestation of a so-much-needed striving for the party's unity, as well as of the coalition cooperation based on mutual respect. I sincerely thank our party members, representatives of the coalition groups, as well as those numerous unaffiliated citizens who urged me to stand for this honorable state position. I acquainted myself with numerous resolutions in this matter, as well as with letters sent by comrades and citizens. Equally kind words from those milieux often ideologically remote but sincerely anxious about the fate of the country are not alien to me.

The time has come to have my say in this matter. Questions will surely be asked why I held back for such a long time before making the decision. When Poland is at stake, its near and distant future, time spent considering such a decision is neither too careful nor too long. Haste, personal plans, care for one's own image—all this has to recede into the background. We are aware of what people are really concerned about, what their anxieties are, what the everyday life of Polish families looks like, especially in recent months.

It would be a mistake if the main interests of society concentrate around the presidential chair. The life of the nation has undergone deep changes. It so happens that very few remember the beginning of those changes, but almost everyone asks the question: What ensues from them for today. The tired society has the full right to ask when a sunray will shine over Poland. I do not shirk my responsibility, because I never do this sort of thing. I have no other evidence except for the best will and hard, very hard work.

However, I have to take social realities into consideration. I know well that the public opinion associates me more often with the martial law and much more rarely with the line of reforms, with those significant decisions of the 10th PZPR Central Committee Plenum. I think that it is pointless here to recall and explain that during those difficult years I have been deeply convinced of both: of the defense of the nation's stability, as well as of the need for deep reforms and far-reaching democratization. The comrades present here know well how often, and how resolutely I have spoken and, above all, how I acted for the new political and social order in Poland.

How I wanted to combine adherence to principles with openness and boldness in specific quests and solutions. It is not, an argument, however, which is sufficient to win genuine social understanding and support. And that is indispensable, especially in the present situation. That is why both the sense of civil responsibility as well as responsibility to the state, and a soldier's and simple human dignity do not allow me to make political detours. The striving for honors has always been alien to me. I wish to remain myself. Therefore, I want to inform you, comrades, that after deep consideration I do not intend to stand for the office of president of the Polish People's Republic.

It is my conviction that the key issue for Poland now is integration, learning new forms of public life, achieving national agreement in its broadest sense. I want to state clearly and openly that these are not only slogans and strivings but also milestones of the political line which I wanted to implement. If, however, there appears an obstacle to agreement, to the unification of social forces, even if Wojciech Jaruzelski were to be such an obstacle, there is one possible way out: promoting the highest interests of the state. An awareness of the drama of the present period, and above all, a sense of responsibility force one to draw conclusions which someone else may consider to be harmful or unjust. The nation, however, is always just, although not always toward contemporaries.

Comrades, let me not stop at these personal considerations. I want to ask you to give the support of the Central Committee to the soldier, to the politician, to the patriot who has for many years been close to me, Comrade Czeslaw Kiszczak.

Society, including opposition circles, consider him quite rightly to be a leading representative of the line of agreement and bold solutions, among which the best known is the roundtable. As a politician, even in the most difficult conditions, he showed above average abilities to conduct dialogue. He was able to win respect and recognition from many political and social milieus. Aspects of his personality and longstanding experience show that General Czeslaw Kiszczak is able to cope with the honorable and very responsible duties of the office of president of the Polish People's Republic. He has proved many times that he can successfully stand in defense of the superior interests of the socialist state, and he has also proved that in the search for national accord he will not spare his strength and he can win the trust of the partners. Combining these two values is necessary to ensure social order and national security for the successful development of Poland. I ask you for understanding and approval of the motivations and conclusions I have put forward.

Central Committee Asks Jaruzelski To Reconsider

LD3006202689 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Having comprehensively debated Wojciech Jaruzelski's statement regarding his candidacy for the office of the president of the Polish People's Republic, the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee decided to maintain its recommendation and asked Wojciech Jaruzelski to reconsider his position on the matter.

Having heard Wojciech Jaruzelski's statement and following an extensive discussion, the PZPR parliamentary group supports the recommendation and asks Wojciech Jaruzelski to reconsider his decision regarding his candidacy for the office of president.

Unlawful Protest Criticizes Jaruzelski, Soviets

LD3006223289 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] An unlawful demonstration was organized in Warsaw. Its participants shouted anti-state and anti-Soviet slogans, as well as some directed against General Jaruzelski. As a result of the incident 11 MO [civic militia] officers were hurt, including one seriously. Inquiries are in progress in respect of 14 detained participants of the demonstration.

Also yesterday [30 June] Confederation of Independent Poland activists organized an unlawful antistate rally in Katowice.

Police Break Up Protest

LD3006164989 Hamburg DPA in German 1623 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Warsaw (DPA)—Special Polish police units dispersed a demonstration of about 200 supporters of several Solidarity splinter groups near the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee Headquarters in the center of Warsaw today. They were protesting the presidential candidacy of the state and party leader Wojciech Jaruzelski.

When the procession of demonstrators approached the Central Committee building, the police sealed off the street. The mostly young demonstrators threw stones, red paint, and yoghurt cartons at the police, which used tear gas, a water cannon, and, in some cases, truncheons. The demonstrators chanted: "Jaruzelski must go"; and "We want a president, not an agent."

Press Spokesman Comments on Party Plenum, Riots

LD0107100189 Warsaw PAP in English
0101 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, June 30—Central Committee press spokesman Jan Bisztyga announced during a meeting with newsmen here tonight that at a joint meeting of the Party Central Committee and PUWP [Polish United Workers Party] deputy floor group, members of the Central Committee and deputies of the PUWP floor group expressed a conviction that the post of president was one of the most important foundations of the current political system in Poland.

That is why choosing the right person for president, one who would safeguard the implementation of the line of the party's policy, the line of renewal and transformations was touched upon during discussions with particular concern. The Central Committee expressed full approval for the presentation of the candidature of Wojciech Jaruzelski for president. The first secretary of the PUWP Central Committee presented a statement to the effect that following deep deliberations he decided to resign from running for the post of president and recommended Gen Czeslaw Kiszczak to the post.

The spokesman described the discussion at the plenum as one of a substantial, political and emotional character. This statement reflects the atmosphere of the debates, he added. In all addresses it was stressed that the whole line of renewal in Poland, the policy of reform put to practice for several years now, is associated with the person of Gen Jaruzelski. The Central Committee first secretary, having delivered his statement, accentuated that his decision not to run for president was a rational decision, stemming from an analysis of the alignment of forces in parliament and not in society.

Bisztyga also stated that were the decisions of the United Peasant Party [UPP] and the Democratic Party [DP] now holding debates to show a safe electoral calculation, there would then be a possibility of the Central Committee gathering in due time and taking final decisions on the candidature and recommending him once again to the post of president. This means that a meeting of Central Comittee members is not being excluded, one without a determination of its form. In the case when Wojciech Jaruzelski upheld his reservations, there would remain Gen Kiszczak's candidature.

The Central Committee spokesman stated that Friday's debates of the Central Committee Plenum were a further step in consolidating the party. The Central Committee has demonstrated the party's full unity.

While answering questions, PUWP Central Committee press spokesman denied suggestions that allegedly the lack of unequivocal results of Friday's debates of the 13th Plenum caused a delay in convening the newly elected parliament. He added that the time-table in this respect continues to be discussed and expressed belief that during the next three days everything would be clear.

According to our information, both UPP and DP continue the discussion concerning the obligation of deputies of the two parties to vote on a given candidacy for president, he went on. For now, it is not certain whether all DP and UPP deputies will vote on Wojciech Jaruzelski. This is sure to be clarified within the next few days. Certainty to this effect will determine General Jaruzelski's final decision.

The spokesman also commented on street riots that took place in downtown Warsaw today. "I think that it was a provocation held by adventurous forces which hoped for destabilization, at least in psychological terms, of society watching the course of the 13th plenum. It did not affect the views of Central Committee members nor those of PUWP deputies. I hope that the demonstration will be assessed in exactly this way by society and international public opinion" Bisztyga said.

He said also that the second part of the PUWP Central Committee Plenum was meant to be the substantive one focussed on the assessment of elections and their repercussions for Poland's political life.

Michnik for Party President, Solidarity Premier

LD0307154889 Warsaw PAP in English
1419 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 3—"Poland needs now a strong and credible arrangement of power. Any facade-like changes—substitution of one candidate for president or premier for another—are not sufficient. That is why I state that to ponder upon personal merits of generals Jaruzelski and Kiszczak is a false road. I attacked them both in public many times in the past and today I could utter many positive words about them. Nevertheless, the point is not persons but mechanisms," Adam Michnik, editor-in-chief of the GAZETA WYBORCZA paper stated today in a commentary on the situation that has emerged in connection with the election of Poland's president.

"We need a new set-up that might be accepted by all main political forces. A new set-up but one guaranteeing continuation."

"Such a set-up might be an agreement under which a PUWP candidate will be elected president while the office of the premier and the mission of forming a government will be entrusted to a Solidarity candidate."

"Such a president will guarantee the continuity of authority, international agreements and military alliances. Such a government will have the mandate of the overwhelming majority of Poles and guarantee a consistent change of the economic and political system. One such an arrangement of power may realize in practice a postulate concerning a 'grand coalition' and has chances to be given adequate assistance in the economic restructuring of the country," Michnik concluded.

Michnik Says President 'Should Be a Communist'

AU0307135289 Paris AFP in English
1259 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 3 (AFP)—Poland should have a Communist Party official as president and a prime minister from Solidarity, a senior aide to Lech Walesa proposed Monday.

Adam Michnik, a leading theorist of the Solidarity movement, made his suggestion in the union's daily paper, GAZETA.

Poland could emerge from its "totalitarian, Stalinist system" by the creation of a "common front" comprising the democratic opposition (Solidarity) and the reformist wing of the Communist Party, he argued in an article headed "Your president, our prime minister."

While the president should be a member of the Communist Party, the task of forming a government should be given to a Solidarity official, Mr Michnik said.

The twin-chamber parliament is to elect a president later this week. Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski has said he will not stand, and instead proposed a close ally, Interior Minster General Czeslaw Kiszczak.

Army Paper Backs Jaruzelski's Presidential Stand

LD0307133589 Warsaw PAP in English
1117 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 3—In a commentary on Wojciech Jaruzelski's decision not to run for president, the ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI Army paper said today, among other things:

"With surprise, understanding, respect for a personal decision but also with regret we have received the statement made by Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski at the start of the 13th PUWP [Polish United Workers Party] Central Committee plenary session to the effect that he is not going to run for the office of president of the Polish People's Republic.

"For, many a time have we voiced the conviction of the military that Gen Jaruzelski meets all the political, personal and competence-related requirements indispensable for holding this difficult, particularly responsible and honorable post.

"It is with the person of Gen Jaruzelski that we inseparably link reform-oriented achievements in our state though some Poles have not always been fully aware of this fact. For us the general is a symbol of systemic renewal, the main architect of transformations in state structures which found their expression in the round table debates, among other things.

"Therefore, we are pleased to fully identify ourselves with the stands taken by the Central Committee and the parliamentary floor group of the PUWP which, after a comprehensive discussion on the general's statement, decided to uphold their recommendation and support for Wojciech Jaruzelski and asked him to reconsider his decision on running for the presidential office."

Presidential Elections 'Possible' on 18 Jul

AU0207201889 Hamburg DPA in German
1959 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Excerpt] Warsaw (DPA)—The Polish National Assembly will possibly be convened as late as 18 July to elect a state president. This was learned from Solidarity circles in Warsaw on Sunday [2 July]. If this were confirmed, party leader Wojciech Jaruzelski, who has renounced his candidacy, would receive U.S. President George Bush still in his function as State Council chairman. Bush is expected to visit Warsaw on 9 July. Originally it was assumed that the National Assembly would elect a state president on Thursday [6 July].

Furthermore, it was learned from well-informed Solidarity circles that Jaruzelski is firmly determined to stick to his renunciation of running for president. [passage omitted]

France's Roland Dumas Remarks on Jaruzelski

AU0307070289 Warsaw PAP in English
2114 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Text] Paris, July 2—Speaking in a "Europe 1" radio programme "Press Club" French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said that General Wojciech Jaruzelski had "played an outstanding role in Polish transformations which led to freedom expansion."

"I believe, Gen Jaruzelski, to whom history will make justice, has had contributed to what has already happened in Poland," French diplomacy chief said adding that "responsible people like the general and Lech Walesa had made this great transformation possible.

Walesa Publicly Urged To Run for Presidency

AU0307135589 Paris AFP in English
1312 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 3 (AFP)—A Polish opposition movement has for the first time, publicly urged Solidarity leader Lech Walesa to run for president "for the good of the nation".

The Independent and Sovereign Labour Party (NSPP), in an open letter to Mr. Walesa, shown to AFP on Monday, said the Solidarity leader was "trusted in foreign countries" and for Poles themselves was the "guarantor of national reconciliation".

Mr Walesa has so far refused to be a candidate arguing that the existing political system does not present "the required conditions for democracy".

The NSPP appeal came as President Wojciech Jaruzelski indicated that after saying last week he would not be a candidate, he had been asked by the Central Committee to think again and might reconsider his decision.

The NSPP is a small party which claims to have a broad following in urban areas such as Gdansk, Walbrzych, Konin and Olsztyn.

Walesa Arrives in Warsaw To Meet Advisers

LD3006204789 Hamburg DPA in German
1942 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Warsaw (DPA)—Lech Walesa, chairman of the trade union Solidarity, arrived unexpectedly in Warsaw on Friday evening. It was said in Solidarity circles that he met there with his closest advisers. Walesa is said to have been brought to Warsaw in a government aircraft. His stay in the Polish capital presumably has to do with the question of whether the Solidarity deputies should stick to voting against Jaruzelski in the National Assembly.

In the meantime, serious clashes between young demonstrators and the police continued in the inner city of Warsaw. The protests are directed against Jaruzelski's candidature for the office of president.

Jaruzelski Blamed for 'Everything Bad' in Poland

LD0107114389 Hamburg DPA in German
1052 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Excerpt] Warsaw (DPA)—Today, the day after party leader Wojciech Jaruzelski unexpectedly renounced his candidacy for the office of president, Solidarity deputies and senators met in Warsaw. Before the session opened in the parliament building, Lech Walesa, chairman of the Solidarity trade union, told journalists that the choice of candidates is a matter for the government coalition. In his view, Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak has more chance in the present situation of winning the support of the population. In every meeting, displeasure had focused on Jaruzelski. "He is paying for everything bad that has happened in Poland," Walesa said. It is now important to have national unanimity. [passage omitted]

Walesa at Citizens' Parliamentary Club Meeting

LD0107133789 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1200 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] At 1030 today a meeting of the citizens' parliamentary club began in the Hall of Columns of the Sejm building, under the chairmanship of Professor Bronislaw Geremek and Andrzej Wielowiejski and with the participation of Lech Walesa. After adopting the agenda and selecting five secretaries a discussion commenced on the resolutions from the first meeting of the club. The issue of the nomenklatura, changing the parliamentary oath, club discipline, and also the issue of the 33 deputies chosen in the second round of the elections in place of the candidates from the national list were discussed.

At the moment, the second, closed part of the meeting is in progress.

Onyszkiewicz Discusses Parliamentary Meeting

LD0107194389 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1700 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] The Citizens' Parliamentary Committee has met in the Sejm Hall of Columns. It was chaired by Bronislaw Geremek and Andrzej Wielowieyski, with Lech Walesa participating, as well. Janusz Onyszkiewicz spoke:

[Begin Onyszkiewicz recording] Much happened in this second part, which was held without the participation of the press. There was a discussion, with the office of the president as the main topic, in addition to an analysis of the political sitution and how deputies and senators are to behave when the presidential election comes onto the agenda.

Various proposals were presented in the discussion, but in the end the view that the situation is unclear prevailed. We do not know who will represent the coalition. Thus, two things have been accepted; first, our side—let us call it the Solidarity-opposition side—has an obvious candidate for the office of state president, but in the present situation it sees no possibility of putting forward his candidacy, at least for the moment. As far as the candidates of the other side—the coalition side—are concerned, we will take our stance the day before the election, on the eve of the first National Assembly meeting. Here, we must add that there were voices, frequent voices—and Lech Walesa expressed the same view—that it would be healthiest and best of there were several candidates, not just one.

The rest of our platform is known to you. We must set in motion the entire machinery of our parliamentary club and select our candidates for various functions in the Sejm and the Senate. We expect to have our deputy speaker in the Sejm; as far as the Senate is concerned, the issue is a completely banal one.

At this moment, we will begin a debate on our club's rules and regulations, on the election of the club's presidium, and on the election of those whom we propose for the Sejm and the Senate. [end recording]

Citizens' Parliamentary Floor Group Ends Debate

AU0207210589 Warsaw PAP in English 1950 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 2—A two-day debates of the citizens' parliamentary floor group, attended by Lech Walesa, came to an end here today.

Earlier in the day, the group's deputies and senators met at separate sessions to discuss Sejm and Senate rules and designate the group's members for presidia of both chambers.

Following long discussion and subsequent voting, the deputy meeting took the decision to refrain from naming the group's candidate for the post of Sejm speaker. They only designated Olga Krzyzanowska deputy Sejm speaker for the group.

The senators on their part gave their recommendation to Andrzej Stelmachowski as speaker of the Senate, and to Zofia Kuratowska, Jozef Slisz and Andrzej Wielowieyski as deputy speakers of the Senate.

In the course of discussion on changes in the Sejm rules, the participants postulated reduction in the number of deputy speakers of the Sejm from four to three, liquidation of the Socio-Economic Council and voivodship Sejm deputy groups, and specifying of procedure for considering within the Senate of draft laws filed by the Sejm. The problem of Sejm committees aroused an animated discussion.

The floor group's senators came up with their own draft resolution on setting up senate bodies.

In another point on the agenda, the group studied a draft law on National Assembly drafted by the Solidarity-opposition side and styled after the respective law of 1922.

Those gathered spoke in favour for it to become the basis for working out rules and regulations of the National Assembly. Among details, the group considered the possibility of electing the president in a ballot. Members of the club stood in favour of possibility to submit a presidential candidate to a "hearing".

During the meeting, participants appointed the authorities of the citizens' floor group. Bronislaw Geremek was elected group's chairman earlier as was Wielowieyski his first deputy. The group elected, among others, four deputy chairmen: Jacek Kuron, Jan Maria Rokita, Gabriel Janowski and Janusz Ziolkowski. Henryk Wujec and Andrzej Celinski became the floor group's secretaries.

The club also elected its candidates for Sejm and Senate secreteries as well as for the tribunal of state.

On Sunday evening deputies and senators of the citizen's parliamentary floor group attended a mass celebrated by Polish Catholic Primate Jozef Cardinal Glemp at the Warsaw Cathedral.

Benefit of motherland Poland is the intention of this mass, the primate told the congregation. This benefit, seriously threatened, is to be brought nearer to this country by the work of people who have entered the National Assembly.

Further in his homily Glemp said: At the time when we are laborously moving towards liberation from multiple and multi-layer evil we must keep promoting progress. This progress must not be viewed in isolation. For every true progress achieved with effort is an achievement of the entire human family.

Walesa Interviewed on Western Economic Aid

AU0307122389 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 23-25 Jun 89 p 1

[Interview signed 'HL' and 'JZ', with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa: "I Have Taken On Responsibility"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] It is said that major Western economic aid for Poland depends on whether or not "Solidarity" takes over the government.

[Walesa] Most Western politicians tell me: Watch out, you are going too fast, that is not the way, you cannot have everything. There are also Western economists who have indeed said that they will only give us aid if we take over the government. I think we must proceed a little more slowly, a little more wisely, more in unison, more honestly, and more democratically.

[Question] In other words we are going to have a communist government and General Jaruzelski as president.

[Walesa] I do not know, because I am neither in the Sejm nor Senate. All I know is that none of us, myself included, have spoken to either Mr Gorbachev or Mr Honecker, and we do not even know what these talks look like, and how all these blocs, pacts, and so on function. Now we are going to have our own group in the Sejm and Senate, and this group will take a closer look at all these taboo subjects. So we will learn all this someday.

[Question] But can we really expect major help from the West if the system of authorities remains as it is?

[Walesa] Although it is we who are changing the system of authorities, we cannot afford every single change. We are not an island, we are not permitted everything. We have only 35 percent of our liberty. One hundred percent is a long way away. We have to remember that. I do not like this very much either; but I have no choice. I have to answer for everything that is happening. I have taken on responsibility.

[Question] But do you think we are able to survive this economic situation without major help from the West.

[Walesa] We will survive. Look at what is happening. How much talk is there of the economy? Nothing but politics. Politics is important. Politics has gotten us where we are today. But now we already possess political possibilities, and the point is to prevent the economic situation from ruining them.

We can help ourselves, but we must really be cautious and not guide ourselves by emotions.

Public Statement Issued on Wage, Price Freeze

LD3006195689 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The Council of Ministers has met and Mieczysalw Rakowski was in the chair. The published statement says, among other things:

The present government began its work under the especially difficult conditions of a growing economic imbalance. The government's main objective is to lead the country out of the crisis. The initiation of this process required a rapid, simultaneous introduction of the necessary economic and political reforms. The government rejects a policy of half-measures and compromises with the past, old arrangements and structures. It is no longer possible to seek one-off effects and apparent order. Leaving true reforms for later would only delay the intensified social discontent.

Conditions have been created for developing political and trade-union pluralism and for expressing various public, community and regional interests. Bureaucratic absurdities which make people's lives more difficult are being eliminated. On government initiative the legal foundations for building a new economic order were created. New commercial banks which support enterprise have been established and hard-currency laws have been relaxed thus creating a hard-currency market. This is the first step toward a convertible zloty. Rationing and distribution by decree have been radically restricted. A number of nonmarket methods of goods distribution, such as gas coupons, car allocations and so on, have been abolished. Throughout all sectors there are 126,000 new companies in operation, as well as more than 130 new companies started with foreign capital.

A condition of support from international finance institutions and the governments of other states is the preparation of a so- called adjustment program. The Council of Ministers has adopted assumptions for an economic program through 1992 which contains an adjustment program. This document was prepared with the participation of and in accordance with suggestions from IMF and world bank experts. It provides for:

—The preeminence of activities connected with internal equilibrium of the economy;
—Attaining a balance in current transactions in the Second Payment Zone [hard currrency] by 1992;
—Seriously reducing the budget deficit;
—Rapidly liberalizing the principles behind the functioning of the economy and expanding the use of market mechanisms;
—Expanding the number of joint-stock enterprises, selling a portion of the state assets and expanding the opportunities for foreign capital in Poland;
—Creating a capital market and a labor market.

In 1992 communal property will be separated from the state economic system. It will become the property of towns and parishes and will be administered by local self-governing bodies which are also going to be separated from the system of state bodies of power.

The Council of Ministers approved a batch of draft legal acts for implementing the economic program. The Council of Ministers reaffirmed that the fundamental reconstruction of social policy, which has been started, is warranted. In accordance with roundtable decisions, the government has prepared a bill introducing indexation. It is waiting to be examined by the Sejm.

The Council of Ministers examined the current economic situation of the country. The growing imbalance is a result of the outdated economic structure as well as of the impulsive nature of economic processes. It is unavoidable at a time when the old administrative methods of management have stopped working, while new self-regulatory mechanisms have not yet fully come into operation. The growing market imbalance is that which is most badly felt. It results first and foremost from the increasing dynamics of growth in the individuals' monetary incomes and reserves which exceed the ability to supply goods and services. Additional imports of consumer goods fail to prevent an erosion in stock reserves in the trade sector. The intensifying buying-out of goods and a growing panic are stripping the market bare. Inflation is growing. The budget imbalance is worsening, this is caused by disproportionately low budget revenues compared to the rising expenditures paid for in over issued money.

The Council of Ministers adopted decisions aimed at easing the difficult budget situation. The adopted resolution, among other things, provides for a ban on starting new investment projects from earmarked funds and a ban on granting individual tax allowances.

Alarming phenomena are appearing in livestock production. The insufficient profitability of this production, despite the recently changed procurement prices, and the shortage of high-quality feed from state reserves are going to result in a falling trend in the procurement of livestock for slaughter in the next few months. This threatens a serious imbalance in the food market in the second 6 months of the year. It is vital to transform the food economy so that it operates according to the market mechanism. The government adopted an assumption for this undertaking and passed it on to trade unions for consultation. In view of its importance and social consequences the transformation of the food economy so that it operates according to market mechanisms should be debeted by the newly-elected parliament.

To create the appropriate conditions, as well as to slow down the trends that are detrimental for the economy, the Council of Ministers decided to take radical steps to stop the race between prices and wages. On the basis of Article 13 of the Act on Prices, a price and wage feeze is introduced from 1 July this year for a period of 1 month. The freeze applies to retail and producer prices. Subsidy amounts are also frozen. The statutory obligations concerning pay rises in the budget-financed sector will be met.

We are at a turning point. The consistent formation of a new economic order is our only chance to get out of the crisis.

The full text of the government statement will be published in tomorrow's papers.

OPZZ Statement Views Wage, Price Freeze

LD0107191489 Warsaw PAP in English
1612 GMT 1 Jul 89

["OPZZ Statement on Price and Wage Freeze"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, July 1—The Secretariat of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions OPZZ expressed here today doubts as to the expediency and effectiveness of the price and wage freeze in Poland, the OPZZ Press Bureau disclosed.

In spite of assurances that these decisions in no way infringe upon the earlier arrangements concerning wage regulations in the budgetary sphere, pay hikes for employees of this sphere, for example the health service and education, should be implemented in tune with binding law and arrangements adopted by the parties concerned. This is the basic condition of both sides' credibility, said the secretariat.

Farming Groups Condemn Food Market Situation

LD3006184289 Warsaw PAP in English
1429 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Warsaw, June 30—At a joint session held here yesterday, the presidium of the Central Committee of the United Peasant Party and the presidium of the main board of the National Union of Farmers, farming circles and organizations assessed the socio-economic situation with special regard to economic conditions in rural areas and in agriculture following the latest price hikes for some means of farming production.

The presidia adopted a joint stance on the social and economic situation in the country. A communique issued after the session reads in part:

We state with great concern that highly negative phenomena have been mounting in the economy in recent months. They are reflected in a drop of industrial production, deterioration of material supply and fast piling up of difficulties on the consumer market.

"The situation on the food market is especially unfavourable from the economic and social point of view. The supply of farming production means and industrial goods to the rural market is decisively deteriorating. Prices of those production means and goods are increasing at a much faster rate than procurement prices for agricultural produce. All this has an influence on the lowering of motivation for agricultural production and in result leads to the decline of the food market.

"Such a state of the economy is the result of inconsistency in the implementation of reforms, mistakes in economic policy and particularly lack of implementation of the adopted priorities. We disapprove of to-date results in the restructuring of the economy.

"We demand the introduction as of July 1 of this year of market mechanisms into the food economy together with increasing the minimal, guaranteed procurement prices securing the parity of incomes. We are of the opinion the introduction of market mechanisms should be linked with cushioning measures to protect society.

"We firmly back the full implementation of 'roundtable' arrangements. We state with concern that the high price hikes for the means of production for agriculture introduced recently were not negotiated with trade unions.

"At the same time the presidium of the UPP Central Committee declares that it will withdraw its representatives from the government if the decisions aimed at a palpable improvement of economic and social conditions in rural areas are not urgently made.

"We observe considerable progress in the democratization of social and political life. At the same time we express conviction that all social and political forces will focus their attention on the urgent solving of Poland's economic problems to prevent the deterioration of public moods."

Transport Workers Strike, Demand Pay Raise

LD0307122389 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1005 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Tens of thousand of the inhabitants of Poznan and those commuting in were late for work today. This is a result of a strike by workers of the Municipal Transport Enterprise. The first round of talks with representatives of the strike committee on remuneration matters did not bring any results. The strike is not supported by the trade unions.

Gdansk Telephonists Strike Over Pay Demands

LD3006135289 Szczecin Domestic Service in Polish 0500 GMT 30 Jun 89

[From the "Baltic Studio" program]

[Text] Yesterday telephonists and telegraphists at the Intercity [telephone] exchange in Gdansk stopped work. The workforce presented demands for a payrise, including a rise in basic pay, and an increase to 200 percent in the bonus for work on days off. Telexes from other post offices, in solidarity with the strikers, are coming into the headquarters of the Gdansk postal service. From information acquired, it transpires that other telephone exchanges in Poland have joined the striking Gdansk ladies.

Operators Suspend Strike

LD0307142389 Warsaw PAP in English 1341 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Gdansk, July 3—The protest action of telephone, telegraph and technical operators from the local telephone exchange which started five days ago and was supported by workers of the Gdynia exchange was suspended today till August 15.

"We think that we have already achieved sufficient understanding of our problems and now time is needed for their peaceful and planned solution," the crews' statement reads.

Soviet Tank Regiment Departs Warsaw, Heads Home

LD0107133589 Warsaw PAP in English 1256 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw, July 1—Another unit of the Northern Group of the Soviet Army is leaving Poland.

Soldiers of the training tank regiment held an assembly today for the last time. Two railway shipments with tanks and a motorcade set out to a new location in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Official Details Withdrawals From Poland

LD0107201889 Warsaw PAP in English 1835 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Jelenia, Gora, July 1—Soldiers of the training tank regiment of the Northern Group of the Soviet Army gathered for their last gala assembly in Strachow today. They are from yet another unit which in line with earlier announcements leaves Poland.

"Today our regiment with all of its equipment is leaving the hospitable Polish land. The regiment has fulfilled its patriotic and internationalistic obligation. We leave in putting into practice the peace initiatives of the leadership of our state which are an important step in the direction of international detente," stated the commander of the regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Lezniov.

Said Sergey Rogov, the deputy chief of the Observation Group for the Reduction of Soviet Troops and Arms, a social organization which was set up in the USSR and oversees the process of withdrawing Soviet units from socialist states:

"According to our data, the Soviet Union will have withdrawn over 3 thousand tanks, about 600 artillery guns and 40 planes and about 26 thousand soldiers from socialist states by July 1. The biggest reductions pertain to the Western Group of the Soviet Army stationed in the GDR: Over 1,900 tanks, 180 guns and over 10 thousand people. Apart from the truck battalion which had been pulled out earlier and the tank regiment being withdrawn now, the following will be regrouped from Poland to the Soviet Union: An independent battalion of anti-chemical defence, a anti-airforce missile regiment and a helicopter regiment, all in all 90 tanks, about 50 planes and over 60 helicopters."

Foreign Support for Polish Reforms Viewed

AU0307142889 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 29 Jun 89 p 1

[Interview with Ambassador Stefan Staniszewski, spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Ryszard Malik: "Support for Reforms"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Malik] You have just returned from the CSCE conference in Paris. In light of this, I would like to ask you the following: How is what is happening in Poland perceived there? How do the representatives of the 35 states view current events in our country?

[Staniszewski] All the participants in the conference on the human dimension of the CSCE process have shown great interest in the events that are taking place in our country. It is difficult to speak of a common stance on the part of all the participants in the conference, because there is diversity among the states.

However, a common point was that Poland is considered to be a country that is scrupulously implementing all the CSCE recommendations. We briefed the participants in the conference on this in detail. The "roundtable," the elections, and the changes that are taking place in our country are not only consonant with the CSCE process, but also built on it. In this respect, it is significant that Poland has not been the object of any kind of criticism from the West. Actually, on more than one occasion our actions were cited as examples of progressive moves in the field of observing human rights.

[Malik] What role has Poland played in the work of the conference?

[Staniszewski] We have played a constructive role. Our work involved consultations with both our allies and our Western partners on the subject of the proposals that were submitted at the conference. We took part in initiating some of the proposals. Poland submitted a proposal of its own on streamlining and speeding up the procedures involved in issuing visas. The conference participants responded positively to the proposal. We subscribed to the French proposal concerning children's rights and the Franco-Soviet proposal on the gradual creation of a so-called uniform legislation zone. We also participated actively in consultations on other projects.

[Malik] Poland is an open country. Our leader has just visited Belgium and Great Britain. Poland has recently played host to the French and Italian presidents, and President G. Bush will shortly visit Poland. What conclusions should be drawn from this increase in the level of diplomatic, political activity surrounding Poland? Is this interest yielding any tangible benefits for our country?

[Staniszewski] We are an open country that is implementing a policy of reform. We are pursuing a foreign policy that is open in all directions. The basic goal of the policy is support for the reform process and the country's socioeconomic development. The interest that the world is displaying in Poland has been prompted by what has been happening in our country, especially by recent developments.

The visits by Italian President F. Cossiga and French President F. Mitterrand, as well as the visits to Belgium and Great Britain by W. Jaruzelski, the State Council chairman, have yielded tangible benefits. We signed an agreement with our Italian partner on rescheduling Poland's foreign debt for the years 1986 through 1988. The agreement also makes it possible for Poland to obtain Italian credits that are guaranteed by the state. Great Britain has offered us 25 million pounds, which do not have to be repaid, for training managerial staff over a period of 5 years. France has gone the farthest and is prepared to provide Poland with credits worth 650 million francs, including 500 million that will become available to us once we have concluded an agreement with the IMF. I think that the offers of assistance from Prime Minister M. Thatcher and President F. Mitterrand do represent a change. However, it is not enough to set the economy on its feet again. The economy needs a great injection of finance and normal financial and credit relations with the West.

So the results produced by the visits have only pleased us up to a certain point. We expected rather more. These states have said that they will support Poland at the IMF and the Paris Club with respect to an adjustment program and a new approach to the repayment of our debts. As I already indicated, this support is important in tangible terms, but it is limited at the same time. The support is more political than economic. We know that the issue is not closed from the viewpoint of our creditors, especially in view of the upcoming visit by U.S. President G. Bush.

I think that giving Poland assistance not only lies in our interest, but also lies in the interest of our partners and allies. A lack of progress in implementing reforms in our country will swell the ranks of those opposed to reform, and this would hinder the implementation of the "roundtable" accord.

[Malik] Will we see more visits taking place? Which foreign politicians have said that they will visit Poland in the near future?

[Staniszewski] Poland's current foreign policy line will be continued, and particular emphasis will be placed on economic issues. We will also strengthen our relations with the socialist countries. There will certainly be fewer spectacular visits during the second half of the year; it would be difficult to maintain the present momentum over a longer period of time. However, we can expect several important visits. The events marking the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II will also have an important international dimension. We expect many foreign visitors in connection with the anniversary, including official delegations.

[Malik] Thank you.

Spokesman Rykowski Holds News Conference 27 Jun

AU3006131689 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 28 Jun 89 pp 1, 6

[Report on news conference by Zbyslaw Rykowski, deputy government spokesman, at the INTERPRESS Center in Warsaw on 27 June]

[Text] Barbara Drozdz, ZYCIE WARSZAWY: I would like to ask if any economic talks with the trade unions are planned for the immediate future. I am asking because the latest statement by the National Trade Union Confederation says that the economic reform is based mainly on price increases.

Zbyslaw Rykowski: The economic reform is certainly not based mainly on price increases, even though that is what society believes. This has led to several so-called prices and incomes operations. We have an economy of shortages. The basic task of the reform was to achieve equilibrium. There were several attempts to do so by the simplest method, by increasing prices. However, it soon became obvious that this method destroys its own purpose. Each price increase caused demands for higher wages, with the result that wages rose more than prices. At the same time, the structure of the economy remained as it was before, and our situation vis-a-vis our creditors did not change.

A market is expanded not by restricting demand, but by increasing supply. The Rakowski government really does realize this. We proved so by introducing the acts on private enterprise and foreign capital, and various production-boosting incentives for preferred branches of industry.

However, in the course of 9 months we were incapable of reversing trends which had developed over many years. We could and did create the legal basis for a new economic order. The seeds of new enterprising initiative in each sector of the economy are being sown; the kind of initiative that should lead to competition and thus provide more and better goods and services. However, it will take time before the results of this are visible on the market, and society must appreciate that. When assessing the 9 months of the Rakowski government, one cannot forget that the political reforms were initiated during that time, and that the "roundtable" also took place during that period.

Nevertheless, the structure of the economy has still not changed. One can tell by the state of the market. One cannot blame people working in old economic structures for wanting to preserve their standard of living.

Wages are increasing faster than productivity, and this is happening in industries which do not produce market commodities. The result is that average incomes rise considerably faster than prices, the inflation gap widens, and the quantity of money in circulation that is not backed by goods increases. That is the statistical dimension of the matter. However, I say all this with the greatest caution, because we know that the financial situation of many people, especially pensioners and people who have just commenced employment, is different.

I can assure you that the government and trade unions will seek ways to protect their standard of living.

I foresee economic talks with the trade unions in the nearest future.

Marian Podkowinski, PERSPEKTYWY: I am interested to know whether you have heard about Mr Kucza's talks in Bonn. FRG radio and television are reporting on them without a break.

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Yes, talks between the Polish and FRG Government plenipotentiaries are continuing. A news conference is supposed to be held in Bonn today, and I do not want to forestall any official statements.

Jerzy Gonczarski, EXPRESS WIECZORNY: I have two questions. First, is the reason behind the latest drastic price increases the fact that that the across-the-board July price increases were rejected?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: I do not know what across-the-board July price increases you are talking about.

Jerzy Gonczarski: What about the pro-market orientation of the food industry?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Talks about this subject are in progress, and various concepts are being considered. The principles and procedure behind this process were established at the "roundtable."

Jerzy Gonczarski: Why did the price of gasoline, cigarettes, and liquor increase?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Because of the market situation. It is obvious that the market situation reflects a failure to achieve a pro-market orientation of the economy.

Jerzy Gonczarski: Because of the situation with food supplies, does the government intend to purchase emergency supplies from the West?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Yes.

Henryk Sroczynski, GLOS ROBOTNICZY: Do you foresee an extension of the validity of meat ration coupons? What is the supply situation with sugar and gasoline?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Today the minister of domestic trade sent a telex to voivodas, authorizing them to extend the validity of these coupons until 5 July.

On Sunday there were still gasoline shortages caused by difficulties in delivering gasoline to filling stations with empty storage tanks. Right now the reserves are being replenished, and there is enough gasoline to last 8 days, whereas 2 weeks ago there was only enough to last 2-3 days.

In the third quarter of the year, thanks to imports paid for in foreign currency, we foresee a 36-38 percent increase in gasoline supplies compared to the third quarter of last year. Therefore, we want to control the gasoline market not only by means of prices, but also by means of supply. As far as sugar is concerned, let me first describe sales of sugar over the past months. Twenty percent more sugar was sold in December 1988 than in December 1987. In January and February 1989, following the first price increase, sugar sales continued at the same level as in January and February 1988. In March 1989, 37 percent more sugar was sold than in March 1988; in April 1989, 182 percent more sugar was sold than in April 1988. In May 1989, 9 percent more sugar was sold than in May 1988 because of difficulties with sugar availability. Up to 20 June, 36 percent more sugar was sold than in the same period of June 1988, also because of the well-known problems with obtaining sugar.

The present situation varies from region to region. Despite the good economic results, good crops, and a cut down on sugar exports, it has become necessary to import certain quantities of sugar. We are now doing so.

Sugar has become a kind of savings deposit, a form of investment. However, I deny rumors that the price of sugar will increase in the next few weeks.

Boguslaw Turek, UPI: I have two questions. Today, Mr Miodowicz told Polish Radio that, if the present situation in Poland continues, people will take to the streets. Does the government share Miodowicz's opinions and fears?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: The situation is not easy. Nevertheless, I trust that society's maturity and the present structures of democracy are making it possible to express interests, views, opinions, and dissatisfaction in a different way than was the case in the past.

Boguslaw Turek: You said that it will take time for the market situation to improve. Does the government have any plan in this sphere, so that people may acquire some hope? Is the government prepared to say exactly how much time it will take? Perhaps it depends on Western credits?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: A lot depends on Western credits. We are working on a regulatory program, which should provide the prospects about which you enquire.

Eugenia Manolova, BTA: Are there any preliminary data on inflation in the first half of the year?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: No, because the first half of the year is not over yet.

Thomas Urban, SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG: A Polish market in West Berlin was closed by the police on Saturday. What does the Polish Government say to that?

Second, because it lay in the interests of the West Berlin and Polish authorities to close this market, were any consultations held beforehand?

Zbysiaw Rykowski: The reaction of the West Berlin authorities shows that the regulations governing markets are not always effective, and that administrative intervention is sometimes called for. We have been viewing these unofficial Polish exports with concern, first because they create a bad picture of Poland, and second because the residents of West Berlin were being supplied with goods of which there is a shortage in our country.

We have heard that ordinary tourists who were not involved in this illegal trade were also detained. I do not know if the West Berlin authorities have consulted the Polish authorities about this matter.

Krzysztof Leski, GAZETA WYBORCZA: It surprises me that so far no one has asked any questions about political issues at today's conference. So I would like to ask the following: Will the governing coalition remain the governing coalition? Are there any talks going on between coalition groups on the subject of forming a government and on agreeing on a candidate for the presidency? If so, have such talks produced any results or not?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Political, parliamentary forces enjoy genuine sovereignty, and it is not the job of the government spokesman to make statements on their behalf.

Carlos Gonzalez, Dominican press: The weekend edition of ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI carried a lead article entitled "A Guarantor for the Stability and Dignity of the State." It states: "We have a right and duty ... on behalf of the military—to say that the military community believes that Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski satisfies the political conditions and possesses the necessary personal and ethical qualities for holding the office of president. In the ranks of the military, he is held in high esteem as a soldier and commander who has served in the front-line." So the military is simply saying that Wojciech Jaruzelski should be president.

How do political forces and the government spokesman view this?

I have a second question....

Zbyslaw Rykowski: As a warrant officer in the reserve, I agree with the opinion expressed in the article.

Carlos Gonzalez, Dominican press: My second question concerns a question, and the reply that you gave to it. I am referring to Mr Turek's question and the statements that are being made today by Mr Miodowicz.

I would like to know whether the government has studied the experiences of other countries where democratic institution operate well, even countries that have just held democratic elections in which opposition candidates have won. However, riots did erupt in the streets of those countries. There is the example of Caracas following the election of Mr Carlos Andros Perez and of Rosario in Argentina following the election of Menem.

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Yes, of course, we are familiar with examples from various corners of the world which have revealed a variety of links between democracies, economies, and people's material circumstances as determined by the state of the economy. However, it seems to me that there are few parallels with these situations. I have said on numerous occasions that we are undertaking an experiment. I believe that the experiment will succeed and that the new democratic structures will manage to accomplish the tasks that people expect of them. I simply do not see any alternative.

Jacek Wedrowski, INTERPRESS: I would like to refer to the problem of the price hikes. A well-known journalist recently said that he was of the opinion that the hikes were introduced for political reasons. Could you comment on this?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Yes, I heard that statement. Beside, other statements have also been made alleging that the recent increases in sugar, gasoline, and vodka prices were motivated by political considerations. The government is supposed to be trying to get its own back for the outcome of the elections. This reasoning is illogical. This is precisely the time when we should be seeking popularity at whatever price. Unfortunately, the economy cannot afford it, it simply cannot be done. The price hikes are not motivated by any political considerations. However, now that we are on the subject of political motives, it can be said that there were political reasons for the delay in introducing essential increases. This is because first there was the "roundtable," then the "roundtable" was in progress, then there was the period after the "roundtable," and then the period before the elections.... In Poland there never is a good moment for increasing prices. Well, it is probably true to say that there is never a good time anywhere in the world. However, in our case there is a political dimension to every increase, and it is linked to the political timetable.

However, the economic situation does not lend itself to subordination to the political timetable. After all, people are well aware of the state of the market and the attendant atmosphere. We are conscious of our responsibility to ensure the continuity of accord and that social stability is a condition for its continuity. We made these difficult decisions in order to preserve stability, to rescue those sectors of the market that are falling apart. Is it not the case that delaying increases because of the political timetable and empty shelves in the shops would pose an even greater danger to stability? Of course, it would be easier to present the new, next government with the need to take these steps. It would be easier for us, but after a time the lines would grow longer and the increases would have to be larger. However, by then it could be too late to rescue the market.

Boguslaw Turek, UPI: You gave the sales figures for sugar in various months. Is there any link between these figures and the production of hooch? Second, do you know when the 13th Plenum is taking place?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: To answer your second question, please ask Jan Bisztyga, the Central Committee spokesman.

To answer the first question, the government does not conduct investigations of that sort. However, from my own personal observations, I can tell you that there is no link between the two, because vodka has been relatively cheap recently.

Klaus Bachmann, DIE PRESSE: What does the schedule for a pro-market orientation of the food industry look like? I am especially interested in meat and meat products.

Zbyslaw Rykowski: A pro-market orientation of the food industry is the only way to normalize the food market. I have already said that concepts for carrying out this pro-market orientation are being considered.

The principles behind this were established at the "roundtable."

Adam Wysocki, Radio Polonia: Last week, the first Polish-German symposium on the subject of military doctrines ended. As far as I know, this was the brainchild of both foreign ministers. Have you any comment to make?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Yes. This seminar, which, as you say, was the idea of Ministers Tadeusz Olechowski and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, is considered by us to be one of the more important events to have taken place in East-West disarmament dialogue. It has been generally believed for a long time that military doctrines may have a threatening nature, and that the other side may view them as a destabilizing factor that reduces the level of mutual confidence. Therefore, the conviction has arisen whereby these matters should become a subject of talks. Let me recall that this problem was contained in the Jaruzelski Plan.

The foreign ministries and other institutions of both countries, cooperating with each other, prepared a seminar devoted to these matters. It was attended by a representative body of high-ranking negotiators—military men and scientists from the Warsaw Pact, NATO, and neutral and nonaligned countries. They included General V. Lutov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact; Ambassador R. Lehman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; and W. von Eckelen, secretary general of the West European Union.

The seminar initiated East-West dialogue on the subject of military doctrines and strategies, and has ensured its continuation. The status of the meeting was raised even further by the participation of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, among others, and by a message from Minister Tadeusz Olechowski.

I would like to point out that we highly appreciate the remarks by Minister Genscher at this seminar on the subject of Polish-FRG relations and on the significance of the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II for a complete normalization of relations between the two countries.

Renate Marsch, DPA: Could you tell us to what extent food prices and consumer prices generally are now being subsidized? What percentage of the budget do they account for? How large is the budget deficit now, and how does it compare with the projected level?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: Five months into the year the state budget amounts to about 3 billion. The reasons for this are, on the one hand, the growing cost of subsidies and, on the other hand, delays in the receipt of tax revenue from enterprises. So that is not the actual deficit.

As for food subsidies, subsidies for milk alone, which we once discussed here, amount to more than Zl billion at the present time. Subsidies have increased as a result of the higher procurement prices for farm produce that were introduced in April. Unfortunately, I cannot provide you with any precise figures just now. We will provide you with them later.

Rafal Jasfajn, INTERPRESS: Are the talks between Polish and GDR environmental protection experts also dealing with the subject of the nuclear power station near Greifswald. The issue has provoked a lot of controversy in the western part of Pomerania. This is because it is known that reactors in operation there do not possess all the required safeguards. The wind rose is such that a radioactive cloud would find itself over Szczecin in less than 2 hours.

Zbyslaw Rykowski: At the moment work is focusing on a tripartite agreement that would regulate principles for mutual contacts and agreements relating to Poland, GDR, and Czechoslovakia in connection with common threats to the natural environment whose source lies in any one of the states.

Deborah Seward, AP: Could you tell us which sectors will feel the benefit of the foreign credits that are expected? How does the government plan to allocate the credits, and which sectors should benefit the most?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: I think that we said that the credits should be primarily used for farming, the food industry, the production of consumer goods and goods for export, as well as the introduction of new, modern technology into the Polish economy, and for a new generation of products.

Boguslaw Turek, UPI: Did the government take account of farmers' reactions to the high increase in the price of gasoline?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: The government must take account of the reactions of all groups in society. However, as I said, this was not some arbitrary act, but was based on economic calculations. I think that the planned introduction of market mechanisms in agriculture and the 15 percent increase in the procurement prices paid by enterprises will offset the effect of the increase. The so-called parity problem is one the key problems in the Polish economy and in town and country relations, and also relates to this vicious circle of subsidies.

The parity problem can only be solved by introducing market mechanisms in the countryside and in the towns.

Boguslaw Turek, UPI: We know that farmers intend to protest against the increase. Are any talks being held with farmers' representatives?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: I said that talks will be held with trade union representatives, including representatives of farmers' unions.

Krzysztof Leski, GAZETA WYBORCZA: Is the Polish Government disappointed that the U.S. Senate did not approve concessions for Poland before its summer recess, in other words before President Bush's visit to Poland?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: We are in favor of a rapid implementation of the eight-point package of proposals presented by President Bush last April. We would welcome with satisfaction any decisions aimed at an implementation of these proposals.

Andrzej Jankowski, "Solidarity" press office: Economists entertain two general concepts for a pro-market orientation of the Polish economy. One of them is a more radical concept, involving rapid and determined changes, and the other is more cautious, involving a lengthy process of preparing a protective barrier, so to speak. Does the latest proposal concerning an employment act, which recognizes unemployment and foresees something in the nature of public works, mean that the government has decided to adopt the first, more radical concept of a pro-market orientation of the economy?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: We have been talking about a radical pro-market orientation of the economy for a long time. This is one of the leading points of the economic decisions reached by the "roundtable." However, the employment bill that is currently being considered by the Ministry of Labor is quite simply meant to protect the employees of work places that have been closed down, because the reform cannot be implemented without such closures, without a restructuring.

Klaus Bachmann, DIE PRESSE: I would like to expound my previous question. We know that the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Domestic Trade are considering various plans and possibilities for a pro-market orientation of the food industry. Are the price increases meant to occur only once, or will there be several over a longer period of time, and what protective measures are meant to accompany them? When should one expect the first price increases, and when can one expect the protective measures to appear, measures that will protect the population against the increased costs of living?

My second question is about something that we heard on television yesterday, namely the fact that meat plants have not procured any live meat in the past few days. Is that because farmers are witholding livestock and refusing to sell it, waiting for the prices to increase? Or is it simply a result of the fact that the cow population has been falling for a long time? What does the government intend to do in such a situation?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: You yourself said that various concepts of a pro-market orientation and various forms of protection are being considered. All I can do is confirm it. As for livestock procurement, yes, it has indeed dropped. Procurement is always lower in the summer. Apart from that, farmers are indeed waiting for procurement prices to increase, or so I think.

Boguslaw Turek, UPI: I do not understand this system of index-linking of wages, therefore I am asking you this question. After the price increases, will people automatically receive pay rises?

Zbyslaw Rykowski: The index-linking of wages is supposed to offset the effects of price increases, in accordance with the principles that have been adopted.

Celebrations Highlight Kosovo Battle Anniversary

Milosevic Delivers Speech

AU3006203189 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Jun 89 p 1

[Speech by Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, at the central celebration marking the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo, held at Gazi Mestan on 28 June]

[Text] At this place in the heart of Serbia at the Field of Kosovo, 6 centuries ago, a full 600 years ago, one of the greatest battles of that time took place. As all great events, it is surrounded with many questions and secrets, it has been the subject of constant scientific research and of common people's curiosity, Slobodan Milosevic pointed out at the beginning of his speech to an audience of a million.

By the force of social circumstances this great 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo is taking place in a year in which Serbia, after many years, after many decades, has regained its state, national, and spiritual integrity. Therefore, it is not difficult for us to answer today the old question: how are we going to face Milos [Milos Obilic, legendary hero of the Battle of Kosovo]. Through the play of history and life, it seems as if Serbia has, precisely in this year, in 1989, regained its state and its dignity and thus has celebrated an event of the distant past which has a great historical and symbolic significance for its future.

Serbian Being—Liberational

Today, it is difficult to say what is the historical truth about the Battle of Kosovo and what is legend. Today this is no longer important. Oppressed by pain and filled with hope, the people used to remember and to forget, as, after all, all people in the world do, and it was ashamed of treachery and glorified heroism. Therefore it is difficult to say today whether the Battle of Kosovo was a defeat or a victory for the Serbian people, whether thanks to it we fell into slavery or we survived in this slavery. The answers to those questions will be constantly sought by science and the people. What has been certain through all the centuries until our time today is that disharmony struck Kosovo 600 years ago. If we lost the battle, then this was not only the result of social superiority and the armed advantage of the Ottoman Empire but also of the tragic disunity in the leadership of the Serbian state at that time. In that distant 1389, the Ottoman Empire was not only stronger than that of the Serbs but it was also more fortunate than the Serbian kingdom.

The lack of unity and betrayal in Kosovo will continue to follow the Serbian people like an evil fate through the whole of its history. Even in the last war, this lack of unity and betrayal led the Serbian people and Serbia into agony, the consequences of which in the historical and moral sense exceeded fascist aggression.

Even later, when a socialist Yugoslavia was set up, in this new state the Serbian leadership remained divided, prone to compromise to the detriment of its own people. The concessions that many Serbian leaders made at the expense of their people could not be accepted historically and ethically by any nation in the world, especially because the Serbs have never in the whole of their history conquered and exploited others. Their national and historical being has been liberational throughout the whole of history and through two world wars, as it is today. They liberated themselves and when they could they also helped others to liberate themselves. The fact that in this region they are a major nation is not a Serbian sin or shame; this is an advantage which they have not used against others, but I must say that here, in this big, legendary field of Kosovo, the Serbs have not used the advantage of being great for their own benefit either.

Thanks to their leaders and politicians and their vassal mentality they felt guilty before themselves and others. This situation lasted for decades, it lasted for years and here we are now at the field of Kosovo to say that this is no longer the case.

Unity Will Make Prosperity Possible

Disunity among Serb officials made Serbia lag behind and their inferiority humiliated Serbia. Therefore, no place in Serbia is better suited for saying this than the field of Kosovo and no place in Serbia is better suited than the field of Kosovo for saying that unity in Serbia will bring prosperity to the Serbian people in Serbia and each one of its citizens, irrespective of his national or religious affiliation.

Serbia of today is united and equal to other republics and prepared to do everything to improve its financial and social position and that of all its citizens. If there is unity, cooperation, and seriousness, it will succeed in doing so. This is why the optimism that is now present in Serbia to a considerable extent regarding the future days is realistic, also because it is based on freedom, which makes it possible for all people to express their positive, creative, and humane abilities aimed at furthering social and personal life.

Serbia has never had only Serbs living in it. Today, more than in the past, members of other peoples and nationalities also live in it. This is not a disadvantage for Serbia. I am truly convinced that it is its advantage. National composition of almost all countries in the world today, particularly developed ones, has also been changing in this direction. Citizens of different nationalities, religions, and races have been living together more and more frequently and more and more successfully.

Socialism in particular, being a progressive and just democratic society, should not allow people to be divided in the national and religious respect. The only differences one can and should allow in socialism are between hard working people and idlers and between honest people and dishonest people. Therefore, all people in Serbia who live from their own work, honestly, respecting other people and other nations, are in their own republic.

Dramatic National Divisions

After all, our entire country should be set up on the basis of such principles. Yugoslavia is a multinational community and it can survive only under the conditions of full equality for all nations that live in it.

The crisis that hit Yugoslavia has brought about national divisions, but also social, cultural, religious and many other less important ones. Among all these divisions, nationalist ones have shown themselves to be the most dramatic. Resolving them will make it easier to remove other divisions and mitigate the consequences they have created.

For as long as multinational communities have existed, their weak point has always been the relations between different nations. The threat that the question of one nation being endangered by the others can be posed one day—and this can then start a wave of suspicions, accusations, and intolerance, a wave that invariably grows and is difficult to stop—has been hanging like a sword over their heads all the time. Internal and external enemies of such communities are aware of this and therefore they organize their activity against multinational societies mostly by fomenting national conflicts. At this moment, we in Yugoslavia are behaving as if we have never had such an experience and as if in our recent and distant past we have never experienced the worst tragedy of national conflicts that a society can experience and still survive.

Equal and harmonious relations among Yugoslav peoples are a necessary condition for the existence of Yugoslavia and for it to find its way out of the crisis and, in particular, they are a necessary condition for its economic and social prosperity. In this respect Yugoslavia does not stand out from the social milieu of the contemporary, particularly the developed, world. This world is more and more marked by national tolerance, national cooperation, and even national equality. The modern economic and technological, as well as political and cultural development, has guided various peoples toward each other, has made them interdependent and increasingly mutually equal [medjusobno ravnopravni]. Equal and united people can above all become a part of the civilization toward which the mankind is moving. If we cannot be at the head of the column leading to such a civilization, there is certainly no need for us to be at its tail.

At the time when this famous historical battle was fought in Kosovo, the people were looking at the stars, expecting aid from them. Now, 6 centuries later, they are looking at the stars again, waiting to conquer them. On the first occasion, they could allow themselves to be disunified and to have hatred and treason because they lived in smaller, weakly interlinked worlds. Now, as people on this planet, they cannot conquer even their own planet if they are not united, let alone other planets, unless they live in mutual harmony and solidarity.

Therefore, words devoted to unity, solidarity, and cooperation among people have no greater significance anywhere on the soil of our motherland than they have here in the field of Kosovo, which is a symbol of disunity and treason.

In the memory of the Serbian people, this disunity was decisive in causing the loss of the battle and in bringing about the fate which Serbia suffered for a full 6 centuries.

Even if it were not so from a historical point of view, it remains certain that the people regarded disunity as its greatest disaster. Therefore it is the obligation of the people to remove disunity, so that they may protect themselves from defeats, failures, and stagnation in the future.

Unity Brings Back Dignity

This year, the Serbian people became aware of the necessity of their mutual harmony as the indispensable condition for their present life and further development.

I am convinced that this awareness of harmony and unity will make it possible for Serbia not only to function as a state but to function as a successful state. Therefore I think that it makes sense to say this here in Kosovo, where that disunity once upon a time tragically pushed back Serbia for centuries and endangered it, and where renewed unity may advance it and may return dignity to it. Such an awareness about mutual relations constitutes an elementary necessity for Yugoslavia, too, for its fate is in the joined hands of all its peoples.

The Kosovo battle contains another great symbol. This is the symbol of heroism. Poems, dances, literature, and history are devoted to it.

The Kosovo heroism has been inspiring our creativity for 6 centuries, and has been feeding our pride, and does not allow us to forget that at one time we were an army great, brave, and proud, one of the few that remained undefeated when losing.

Six centuries later, now, we are again engaged in battles and are facing battles. They are not armed battles, although such things cannot be excluded yet. However, regardless of what kind of battles they are, they cannot be won cheers without resolve, bravery, and sacrifice, without the noble qualities that were present here in the field of Kosovo in the days past. Our chief battle now concerns implementing the economic, political, cultural, and general social prosperity, finding a quicker and more successful approach to a civilization in which people will live in the 21st century. For this battle, we certainly need heroism, of course, of a somewhat different kind, but that courage without which nothing serious and great can be achieved remains unchanged and remains urgently necessary.

Six centuries ago, Serbia heroically defended itself in the field of Kosovo, but it also defended Europe. Serbia was at that time at the bastion that defended the European culture, religion, and European society in general. Therefore today it appears not only unjust but even unhistorical and completely absurd to talk about Serbia's belonging to Europe. Serbia has been a part of Europe incessantly, now just as much as it was in the past, of course, in its own way, but in a way that in the historical sense never deprived it of dignity. In this spirit we now endeavor to build society, rich and democratic, and thus to contribute to the prosperity of this beautiful country, this unjustly suffering country, but also to contribute to the efforts of all the progressive people of our age that they make for a better and happier world.

Let the memory of Kosovo heroism live forever!

Long live Serbia!

Long live Yugoslavia!

Long live peace and brotherhood among peoples!

With these words Slobodan Milosevic concluded his speech, among tumultuous applause.

Officials Attend Festivities

AU3006130889 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Jun 89 p 2

[Unattributed report: "The Delegation From the Federation"]

[Text] In the delegation from the federation at the celebrations to mark the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo in Gazi Mestan were Janez Drnovsek, president of the SFRY Presidency, and several members of the Presidency, Milan Pancevski, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Slobodan Gligorijevic, president of the SFRY Assembly, Ante Markovic, president of the Federal Executive Council, Colonel General Veljko Kadijevic, federal secretary for national defense, Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, Petar Gracanin, federal secretary for internal affairs, and representatives of the Socialist Alliance, the Trade Unions, and the youth organization.

Chanting, Banners Noted

AU3006125389 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Jun 89 p 4

[Unattributed report: "'Europe, Remember Us, We Defended You in Kosovo'"]

[Text] During the main part of the great celebrations marking the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo, the two million people who were present at Gazi Mestan chanted the following: "Slobodan—Freedom"; "Long live the Serbian leadership"; "Long live Serbia"; "Long live Yugoslavia"; "We are not giving up Kosovo"; "Long live the Yugoslav People's Army"; "United Serbia"; "Justice has won"; "Europe, remember us, we defended you in Kosovo," and so on.

The following was written on the banners that were brought to Gazi Mestan: "Kosovo—Serbia—SFRY"; "United Yugoslavia"; "Long live the SFRY"; "Slobodan—Freedom"; "Long live Slobodan Milosevic"; "Brains and work for Serbia, Yugoslavia, freedom, and democracy"; "This is our country"; "We are Lazar's descendants"; "Thank you Kosovo heroes."

More on Slogans, Pictures

AU3006133289 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Jun 89 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Slogans and Flags"]

[Text] At the magnificent meeting in Gazi Mestan to mark the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo, the following slogans could be seen and heard: "For the freedom and equality of Yugoslavia and Serbia"; "Slobo, Slobodan, Montenegro is with you"; "Europe, do you remember when we defended you"; "Long live brotherhood and unity"; "The Battle of Kosovo will last as long as we remember it"; "We love you, Slobodan"; "Always with you, Serbs from Drvar"; "United for a better tomorrow."

Yugoslav, Serbian, and party flag and the flags of the Serbian Orthodox Church were carried. Many different national costumes from Serbia, Montenegro, and Lika could be seen as well as the flags of Canada and the United States.

The most numerous pictures were those of Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia. There were also hundreds of badges with his portrait on and pictures of Kosovo heroes and Prince Lazar.

Albanian Children Ambush, Stone Vehicles

LD3006190989 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1709 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Summary] Istok, 30 Jun (TANJUG)—At about 1700 GMT on 28 June near Klina, returning from the Battle of Kosovo anniversary celebration in Gazi Mestan, a Kosovotrans coach was stoned by a group of young Albanian children. The children then ran away into the forest. Several hours later an ambulance which displayed a picture of Slobodan Milosevic was stoned from an ambush near Berkovo. The same day a group of young Albanians provoked members of the Solidarity association from Karadjordjevo at the exit from Pristina. Similarly, along the entire Slatina-Klina road, Albanian boys and girls behaved like hooligans toward the people returning from Gazi Mestan.

Drnovsek Issues Report on Detentions in Kosovo

LD3006204589 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1828 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Belgrade, June 30 (TANJUG)—The Presidency of Yugoslavia was informed that to be brought to court for trial are people who have exceeded their legal powers while applying isolation measures against those suspected of ethnic Albanians' separatism in the province of Kosovo, southern Yugoslavia, Dr Janez Drnovsek, president of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, said here today.

In a talk with representatives of the Yugoslav forum for human rights and for legal security of citizens led by its chairman, Dr Vojin Dimitrijevic, at Belgrade University, professor Drnovsek transmitted the stand of the collective head of state that in emergency measures, too, state organs are dutybound to act correctly, laws have to be interpreted and applied equally for all regardless of their national affiliation, the Presidency considered.

He is personally informed, President Drnovsek said, that isolation measures in Kosovo are now being applied to only several people and, so, even such cases will be solved soon.

Isolation measures cover the obligation to stay in a definite place of residence or the ban on leaving a definite place of residence. They were applied under the Constitutions of Yugoslavia and the province of Kosovo after an armed rebellion of ethnic Albanians last March which took the toll of 25 people killed and another 228 people lightly or seriously wounded.

According to the Yugoslav Government's reply to the question asked by a delegate in the federal parliament, being kept in isolation are only 11 people at present.

Isolation measures were applied to 237 suspects while another two were due to regularly report to organs for home affairs. Isolated were those who, in the know of security service officers, were either initiators or organisers of demonstrations directed by ethnic Albanian separatists, members of underground hostile groups or those who acted from the positions of ethnic Albanian separatism with the ultimate aim of breaking Kosovo away from Serbia and joining it to neighboring Albania.

With 59 people isolated or put under arrest, found were three submachine guns, two automatic rifles, 21 military rifles, 75 pistols and a major quantity of various kinds of ammunition. This confirmed that the isolation measures taken were justified, the federal government's reply said.

Morina States Kosovo 'Will Never Be Albanian'

AU3006125289 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Jun 89 p 14

[TANJUG report: "I Am Not Supported by Those Whose Plans We Have 'Spoiled'"]

[Text] Gazi Mestan, 28 Jun—Kosovo was and always will be Yugoslav and will never be Albanian, and only in this context is it possible to look for democratic solutions to the problems in this province. This was stressed today by Rahman Morina, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Kosovo, in an interview with a group of foreign and domestic journalists before the beginning of festivities in Gazi Mestan.

Replying to questions on the fate of Azem Vlasi, Morina said that he will get "what he deserves." Everything in fact depends on the decision of the appropriate judicial organs which are conducting the legal proceedings. Otherwise, the practice of isolation which has caused a great furor is a component of the Constitution, stressed Morina and added that had the practice of isolation not been applied, harsher measures would have been needed today.

Blameless and innocent people do not go into isolation, assessed Morina, mentioning that as a humane person, he was against isolation and prison in principle, particularly for young people who were "born innocent but were spoiled by someone, and this should be sorted out."

I do not know who is "spreading" the lie that I do not enjoy the support of the majority of Albanians. I think that I do enjoy this support. Of course, I am not supported by nationalists and not only Albanian nationalists but also others outside these circles whose plans we have "spoiled."

Morina denied that Ibrahim Rugova, president of the Kosovo Writers Association, had been arrested but he added that if he "continues in the way he has been" he will come into conflict with the law because he is attacking and threatening democracy in Yugoslavia and only at the very least is he working to the advantage of the Albanian nationality.

Speaking about today's festivities in Gazi Mestan, Morina stressed that traditions should be nurtured in order to improve the common future of everyone. There are several smaller groups of Albanians from Urosevac, Pristina, and Djakovica at this meeting. This is a great event for the civilization of Europe and the world which should be proud of everything that happened in the Battle of Kosovo. This is because, added Morina, this was not a conflict between two peoples but between two civilizations and even though the battle was lost, seen in the long term it was in fact won.

Casualties in March Riots in Kosovo Reported

LD0107144689 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1840 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Belgrade, June 30 (TANJUG)—Twenty-five people were killed or succumbed to injuries in the wave of mass demonstrations in the southern Yugoslav province of Kosovo in late March. Two of the killed were aged between 13 and 16 and two between 16 and 18.

This was said by the federal government in its response on Friday to a question by a Yugoslav parliament member on the exact number of casualties in the March demonstrations and the circumstances surrounding their deaths.

The government also said that 228 people were seriously or lightly injured (126 policemen and 102 demonstrators).

The demonstrations were particularly aggressive on March 27 in Pristina and Titova Mitrovica, where one policeman and ten demonstrators were killed, the statement added.

The government also emphasized that the demonstrators put women and children in the front rows to prevent the security organs from establishing order. Older demonstrators, armed with weapons and other objects, followed behind.

The government's response also underlined that it was impossible to conduct an investigation in the cases of 13 of the wounded or killed since relatives or other citizens took them to hospitals or removed them from the site of the incident so that they were discovered subsequently. Due to this, it was impossible to establish all the circumstances under which they were killed or wounded.

The government statement also gave data on the demonstrations and armed attack on security organs on (?May 30) in Podujevo, near Pristina, during the visit by a European Parliament delegation to Kosovo.

The statement emphasized that when security organs intervened without using firearms against demonstrators, a group of ten armed demonstrators. opened fire on them. The security organs responded and the clash resulted in two demonstrators being wounded, one of whom later succumbed to wounds.

The other armed demonstrators fled towards a forest near the town, where all trace of them was lost.

Kosovo SAWP Condemns Kosovo Writer Rugova

AU0207185289 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Jun 89 p 4

[R. Barjaktarevic report: "Inventions Full of Hatred"]

[Text] Pristina, 27 Jun—At its session today, the Presidium of the Provincial Conference of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Kosovo demanded that the relevant organs take all ideopolitical measures against the self-proclaimed president of the Kosovo Writers' Association, Ibrahim Rugova. It also demanded that appropriate state organs undertake all measures in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

At the time when, jointly with all progressive forces of society, the renewed League of Communists of Kosovo is waging a decisive struggle to stabilize the political and security situation, when this policy is receiving wide support from the progressive forces of all peoples and nationalities, and when all members of society are involved in organizing the celebration of the the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo, Ibrahim Rugova again, not accidentally, appeared on the scene.

The opening speaker, Nezir Proksi, said that Ibrahim Rugova has again used a separatist arrow from his well-known arsenal of dirty inventions and has released it with the intention of inciting hatred and discord among the members of all peoples and nationalities in Kosovo, Serbia, and Yugoslavia.

In his interview with DER SPIEGEL, Rugova attacks in a brutal and insulting way—as he has done up to now—the history of the Serbian people, all their achievements and values, their culture and contribution to the people's liberation war and to the development of a socialist self-managing system, brotherhood and unity, and a common life with the members of all peoples and nationalities. Rugova uses the thesis on "small nations," deliberately forgetting that it was in fact in this Yugoslavia, in this Yugoslavia in which he lives today, in the Yugoslavia whose workers class and peoples and nationalities enabled him to became a doctor of sciences, that we have always striven to make all people and nationalities equal regardless of their numbers and size. With his nationalist blindness and hatred, Ibrahim Rugova does not shrink from making monstrous statements, such as making a threat in the form of an "invitation to an uprising," which do not come from a sound human mind, Proksi said.

Rugova's statement that the celebration of the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo is a "provocation and purely a Serbian chauvinist celebration" is dirty and is full of hatred and nationalism of all colors. The celebration of a famous epic event of one nation and its sacrifice for the defense of its own freedom and the defense of European culture and civilization cannot be a provocation.

Everything that concerns liberation and the humane aspect of the Serbian people, everything that concerns their glorious history, is a provocation to Rugova and Albanian separatists and nationalists of his type. His and similar dirty lies and inventions that do not come from a sound mind are only used by the national separatist movement, Proksi said.

Nezir Proksi also said that the latest statements made by Ibrahim Rugova in DER SPIEGEL are a clear proof that he has joined the people who are hysterically anti-Serbian, as well as those who want to destroy brotherhood, unity, and socialist togetherness in Kosovo, Serbia, and Yugoslavia. Ibrahim Rugova openly places himself among those who betrayed Yugoslavia, our socialist revolution, and all of its achievements and values. Although he considers and presents himself as the fighter for the rights of Albanians with his monstrous statements, attacks, dirty lies, nationalistic blindness, and open hatred of Serbs and Serbia, and thus all peoples and nationalities in Yugoslavia, Rugova only offers hatred, revenge, and betrayal just like well-known Albanian nationalists and separatists do.

On behalf of all working people and citizens, and the members of all peoples and nationalities in the province, the Presidium of the Provincial Conference of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Kosovo rejected most energetically and most resolutely all of the assessments and stands of Ibrahim Rugova published in the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL.

Serbian Initiative on Colonist Law Unacceptable

LD3006075489 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1625 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Skopje, 29 Jun (TANJUG)—The Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia believes that there is neither socio-economic justification nor consitutional and legal presupposition for a revision of the law on colonists. Any change in the law would cause the most grave consequences and would have numerous unfavorable implications for the national integrity and historical interests of the Macedonian people.

This was stated today at a session of the Macedonian Presidency dedicated to the initiative and demand of the Socialist Republic of Serbia Assembly for passing a federal law and other measures which wouuld remove or alleviate the consequences of reviewing the law on land given to colonists and those interested in cultivating it in the People's Republic of Macedonia and the Kosovo-Metohija autonomous region. [passage omitted]

Serbian Assembly Agrees to Constitution Changes

LD3006090389 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 29 Jun (TANJUG)—At today's session of all three chambers of the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Serbia the delegates adopted a law on the usage of the loan for the republic's development which defines the criteria, purposes, and conditions for the deployment of collected funds. [passage omitted]

At today's assembly session a report on last year's work of the assembly's commission for controlling the state security service was adopted. The report stresses, among other things, that the work of the state security service last year proceeded in keeping with its competence and that the service applied certain means and methods only when necessary.

The delegates were told that the earlier initiative for changing the law which forbids the return of colonists to their former farmland had been changed, to the effect that the law does not apply to colonists from the Socialist Republic of Macedonia.

The delegates of all three chambers of the Serbian Assembly agreed today on changes to the constitutional law on the implementation of amendments nine to 47 to the SFRY Constitution. Isen Kajdomcaj, the newly elected president of the presidency of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, today took an oath before the assembly delegates.

Bosnian, Serbian Leaderships Discuss Crises

LD0107165789 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0236 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Sarajevo, June 30 (TANJUG)—An end to devastating disintegration processes in Yugoslavia, settlement of the economic crisis and establishment of socialist democratic unity on the basis of national equality and with full respect of specific national features can be attained only through a comprehensive social reform whose implementation requires a concerted action by all progressive forces in the country, it was said in talks between the leaderships of the Yugoslav republics of Serbia and Bosnia-Hercegovina here on Friday.

The delegations of the two republics were headed by their presidents, Slobodan Milosevic and Obrad Piljak.

Both sides agreed that the major precondition for settling the economic and social crisis is overcoming divisions and strengthening unity within the country, a statement from the talks said. Of vital importance here are mutual cooperation among the joint responsibility of the republics and autonomous provinces for the successful functioning of the federal bodies, their development and affirmation.

The first and foremost condition for implemention of the Yugoslav society as a whole is the reform of the political system and adoption of a new federal constitution, the statement noted.

Proceeding from common economic and political interests, the new constitutional solutions should enable the federation to efficaciously perform its functions on a single Yugoslav market, in foreign and internal policy and national defence, it as said during the talks.

The two leaderships expressed readiness to defend and preserve Tito's concept of the Yugoslav socialist federative community, its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. Everything which endangers the policy of equality, brotherhood and unity and socialist community of all nations and nationalities in multi-ethnic Yugoslavia must be removed resolutely and with respect for the specific interests of all.

The counterrevolution by ethnic Albanian separatists and nationalists in Kosovo still poses the main threat to Yugoslavia, the policy of national equality and socialism. Kosovo remains the country's major political moral, social and security problem, the statement pointed out.

Consistent implementation of the jointly determined policy for stabilizing the situation in Kosovo—a comprehensive and persistent nationwide action for overcoming and removing the causes and grave consequences of the counterrevolution—is of vital importance for Yugoslavia's stability, it was pointed out in the talks. Every opportunism and disregard for Yugoslav criteria in any part of the League of Communists and [word indistinct] breaks the unity of action and objectively contributed to the activities of ethnic Albanian separatists and nationalists in Kosovo, the two leaderships said.

Action by a united front of socialist self-management forces in Kosovo, Serbia, Bosnia-Hercegovina and the entire country in the struggle against nationalist and separatist forces in Kosovo at the same time constitutes a united front of the struggle against the protagonists and tendencies of devastating activity of all nationalisms and separatisms which undermine Yugoslavia's inter- ethnic relations, equality, federal system and democratic development, it was pointed out.

CSSR's Lenart Concludes Talks, Friendly Visit

Received by Pancevski

AU3006201089 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Milan Pancevski, president of the Central Committee Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, has received Jozef Lenart, member of the Presidium and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, who is visiting our country. Information on the current sociopolitical situation in the two countries, and views on key international problems were exchanged.

Concludes Visit, Returns Home

LD0107145589 Prague CTK In English 1249 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Belgrade July 1 (CTK correspondent)—Presidium member and secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee Jozef Lenart ended here Saturday a friendly working visit to Yugoslavia.

He was seen off at the airport by executive secretary of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Stanislav Stojanovic, party Central Committee Presidium member Dusan Ckrebic and other representatives.

CTK on Ckrebic-Lenart Talks

LD0107140289 Prague CTK in English 1501 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Belgrade June 30 (CTK correspondent)—Chairman of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Milan Pancevski and Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Jozef Lenart met here today for talks during which they reviewed some important topics concerning the international situation.

The Czechoslovak guest pointed out his country's initiative favouring confidence and cooperation between states, a joint initiative with the GDR government on the establishment of a chemical- and nuclear-free zone in Central Europe and Czecholslovakia's proposal in the sphere of ecology.

The Yugoslav party leader pointed to his country's part in the non-aligned movement and acquainted the Czechoslovak party official with preparations for its summit, due to take place in Belgrade, and recalled Yugoslavia's peace endeavour particularly in the Balkans and in the Mediterranean.

The two officials spoke about preparations for congresses of their communist parties, and stated that prerequisites exist to further intensify bilateral party cooperation as well as cooperation in the economic sphere.

Media Attacks on FEC President Criticized

LD0107224889 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Commentary by station observer Dusko Mandic]

[Excerpt] It is usual, though unfortunate and dangerous, for various interrepublican and interethnic exchanges by the media to repeat themselves on a day-to-day basis. However, what the Belgrade newspaper POLITIKA

EKSPRES did yesterday—accusing Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic of robbing Serbia in the interests of Croatia and Slovenia—surpassed all limits in this insulting war of words. Our commentary of the week, by Dusko Mandic, is devoted to this.

[Mandic] During 30 years of journalism, of which 25 years have been at Radio Zagreb, I have reported all sorts of news to listeners. Never, however, have I had occasion to report that the Yugoslav prime minister is a robber. However, I now have occasion to do this. In fact I am deeply convinced that I am reporting untrue news, but for one part of our country—and for the capital Belgrade—it is true, and as such takes principal place in yesterday's issue of Belgrade's largest circulation newspapers, POLITIKA EKSPRES and POLITIKA.

On the front page in yesterday's issue, in the form of an announcement, POLITIKA EKSPRES, under the title Government of Discord, informs its readers that the FEC, led by Ante Markovic, and I quote literally, in order to avoid confusion, is taking money from the pocket of the south of the country and transferring it to the north. But that is just the beginning. In one of the article's paragraphs it says, literally, believe it or not dear listeners, and I again quote: If the as yet unconfirmed news proves to be correct that a cut in the clearing rate of exchange is being considered—some say even by as much as 30 percent—then there can be no doubt that the government is working to deepen discord, that is directly against the interests of some parts of the country, in particular Serbia.

In other words, the paper continues, this could mean that Ante Markovic has taken the banner of discord from the hands of Stipe Suvar, since just as Suvar politically deepened discord between the nations, so Markovic and his government are now contributing to (?deepening) this discord economicaly as well. [passage omitted]

Markovic Holds Talks With Newspaper Publishers

AU3006092289 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24-25 Jun 89 p 11

[Unattributed report: "Price Increases No Longer Have Any Effect"]

[Text] In his recent talk with the officials of the newspapers and media houses, Ante Markovic, president of the Federal Executive Council [FEC], tried to help the information media in our country to find a way out of their bad position. Among other things, he said the following:

Being in a situation in which we struggle to turn the currents in our society and particularly in its economy, we have no resources to help us improve the situation. The only way out lies in seeking the roads to a better situation through new dynamic development. We have decided which roads these are. Your demands, if I may say so, are in conformity with the views for which we struggle in our society. We can hardly support the demands that are opposed to this, but there are some such demands here.

It is obvious that the only measure that has been intensively exploited in this respect is price increases. These no longer have much effect. The number of copies sold obviously shows that price increases can no longer help because their effect is counterproductive.

I have told you during this talk: You should write in the most professional way possible, according to your professional conscience. In the qualitative sense, from a professional aspect, you should also take care about yourself and about the quality of your work, your organization, and also your costs. It is certain that you, like society in general, are organized extensively and uneconomically and that you have a corresponding level of costs and also of staffing.

Demanding that society in general should undertake great transformations, you yourselves should turn in the same direction. The term, collapse, is used with increasing frequency. As you know, we are being criticized for not pursuing an anti-inflationary policy with sufficient determination, but our anti-inflation policy is so sharp that it in fact causes very difficult consequences for everybody.

As you know, we have considerably reduced the customs duties, dues, and fees; one should see how many of these reductions apply to this field and whether they are sufficient. I think that we should reexamine import fees and dues. Anyhow, we have freed most of the production material of the fees in general, and of most of the dues, regardless of the fact that Comrade Zekan (Branko Zekan, federal secretary for finance) cannot make the budget balance in this way.

We will strive to help you as regards production materials as much as we can, also as regards newsprint. There are two things here. One of them is a liberalization of imports. Considering that the FEC has decided for liberalization, there is consequently no reason that the imports of newsprint should not be liberalized, too. Of course, this can help you only to the extent that you may, through this liberalization, obtain imported newsprint under more favorable prices and other conditions. Calculated in a simple way, this would amount to between $15 million and $20 million a year, for the country as a whole. Thanks to our foreign exchange situation, which is indeed excellent now, we could allow this. Wise business thinking requires that you should not remain without suppliers in Yugoslavia. This somewhat complicates the situation, because if one wants to embark on investments, the nature of the problem changes completely. We, as the FEC, will not interfere in investments. We have firmly decided to develop the interest of all economic factors to enter jointly into risks and into projects.

As regards the customs duties, the dues, I am not sure that we can reach an agreement just like that here. There is no reason for spare parts to be treated differently; they should even be treated more favorably than production materials. As regards subsidies, I think that they have no chance. At this time I could not take it on myself to propose such a thing, because I know that there is no possibility. We have proposed a readjustment of the budget, and you know what efforts we have made to reduce the overall budget and we barely managed to make it balance.

Anyhow, I do not think that you should propose these subsidies, which run counter to the system and the market, and that we should support them.

Well now, as regards taxes on income and personal incomes, you know that the FEC, or rather the federation, has no powers in that respect; we cannot do anything but appeal. I have nothing against an initiative from your side. You all are in some republic or province; do turn to your officials with the suggestion that the burden should be reduced. If you prepare this suggestion, and if in addition you politically influence republican and provincial governments, it will be easier for us to coordinate this.

As regards the self-managing interest communities, I think we cannot do anything, we are completely powerless. Even the executive councils of the republics cannot help you. The reduction of the charges in domestic and international postal, telegraph, and telephone communications perhaps is not a bad idea for discussion. I think that we can help you to some extent with the post, telegraph, and telephones at the federal level. They still have some obligations toward us, they are tied in a way through the control of their prices by us, and so we exert some influence through this. We have arranged that favorable loans be provided for the development and modernization in newspaper work organizations. The FEC will not deal with this.

Anyhow, I would suggest that you raise other funds than social funds as social capital. There is no reason that you should not set yourselves up as social enterprises and that you should not attract some funds in this way. If the Socialist Alliance of the Working People wants to be the founder, it should put its money where its mouth is. It need not be like that, but it will be.

There is no obstacle to the state participating in this, too. Therefore, the state may also participate, it may also invest funds, and in fact obtain a right to management on the basis of money invested. But basically you are an enterprise, you must be an enterprise, and I think it is better that you consider yourselves economic rather than social enterprises. I recommend it. Probably the result of what we are discussing here now should be a stop in the newspaper price rises, and of other product prices, too. If we all behave in this way, we will change the inflation trend.

Drnovsek Receives SFRY Human Rights Group

LD0107082989 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1354 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Belgrade, 30 Jun (TANJUG)—Janez Drnovsek, president of the SFRY Presidency, today received a delegation of the Yugoslav forum for Human Rights and Citizens' Legal Security. The delegation, headed by Forum President Vojin Dimitrijevic, also comprised members of the leadership of this institution, Vesna Rakic-Vodinelic and Budislav Vukas.

The forum's representatives informed President Drnovsek, as it was reported, about the work so far, certain specific initiatives, and the issues which will be tackled by the forum in the coming period. The forthcoming debates on the amendment of Article 133 of the Criminal Code, regulating the so-called verbal offense, the issue of pardoning those sentenced under these charges, and the problem of isolation were discussed. Pesident Drnovsek informed the forum delegation that he had been personally informed that isolation measures were reduced to only a few individuals and that these cases would be solved in the next few days, as he stressed that the SFRY Presidency has been informed that officials who overstepped their legal powers in implementing isolation measures would be brought before the court.

President Drnovsek presented the SFRY Presidency's stand about the necessity of proper work by state organs in respect of the implementation of extraordinary measures. Janez Drnovsek stressed, among other things, that in this context the equal application and implementation of legal provisions should be ensured regardless of nationality. The president of the SFRY Presidency particularly stressed the importance of all judicial organs' correct work and their independence from day-to-day politics.

During the talks with the forum representatives about the forthcoming public debate on the new SFRY Constitution and other legal provisions, the president of the SFRY Presidency noted that the issue of human rights should not be neglected at any time, as he underlined their application to the Criminal Code.

The president of the SFRY Presidency assessed the forum's work in positive terms and regarded it as a significant, democratic institution of our society which can contribute, by its expert opinion and initiatives, to our society's overall aspirations toward a more complete achievement of human rights and citizens' legal security.

U.S. Congress Discusses Human Rights in Kosovo

AU0107170389 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Ilija Djukic, assistant federal secretary for foreign affairs, presented to U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz the statement of the Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly on the human rights amendment which is being adopted in the U.S. Congress. The amendment expresses concern at the violation of human rights in Yugoslavia, especially in Kosovo. The Federal Chamber statement says among other things that the assessments and the conclusions of the amendment are not based on facts and that they are contrary to the actual state of affairs in Yugoslavia.

It is also said that the adoption of such assessments on the basis of biased views is not acceptable as practice in international relations, and it is not suitable to the relations and the tested principles of cooperation between the two countries.

The U.S. congressman is visiting our country.

Let us add that it sounds politically unserious, to say the least, when Yugoslavia is reproached, from whatever side it may be, for not respecting, for instance, the provisions on national minority rights in the Helsinki CSCE Document. Yugoslavia has been one of the few countries advocating that the provisions on national minority rights in Europe should be included in the document. Therefore, what happened in the U.S. House of Representatives can mean only one thing: either the U.S. congressmen voting for these amendments do not know what actual and wide rights national minorities enjoy in Yugoslavia, or they do not know what the Helsinki document contains.

Commentary on U.S. Amendment

AU0207151589 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Dusan Zupan commentary]

[Text] Only 1 day after the great celebration in Kosovo, the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress adopted an amendment which accuses the Yugoslav Government of allegedly violating the internationally adopted standards on human rights, and asserts that this violation is carried out against, as stated, certain ethnic groups and regions, especially Albanians in Kosovo.

This amendment is appended to the law on U.S. aid to other countries despite the fact that Yugoslavia is not a recipient of this aid and is not mentioned in this law at all. The amendment to the above law was presented in an indirect way, permitted by the work procedures of the Congress, so that this anti-Yugoslav document is put into legal form without discussion and probably without the awareness of many congressmen.

Behind this amendment is a group of U.S. congressmen who support Albanian separatists here. About 2 weeks ago they prepared a similar resolution. Almost all points of this resolution, except the most impudent and the most serious qualifications, are now included in this document.

Aware of the fact that the resolution which requires a special discussion probably does not have a chance of being adopted, these congressmen used a procedural maneuver. This does not, however, mean that everything is over, because the law also has to be adopted in the Senate. After that it would have to be discussed and finally signed by President Bush.

(?Thus, damage) to good and friendly bilateral relations has already been done, because this is the first time that a congressional document criticizing Yugoslavia and its government has been adopted here, even though it has been only partially adopted. One should also admit that by doing this (?the fairly) successful Albanian separatist lobby has succeeded in presenting yet another untruth about Yugoslavia while the U.S. official circles could not or did not want to see to what extent such an act could not only damage bilateral relations but could also encourage separatists to continue working on the realization of their aims with new vigor.

The sooner the officials in Washington realize this fact, the easier it will be to avoid more serious consequences that could stem from this kind of support.

Statement Issued on Amendment

LD3006225189 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2149 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Belgrade, June 30 (TANJUG)—The assessments on the violations of human rights in Yugoslavia, contained in an amendment to the resolution on human rights passed by the U.S. Congress House of Representatives, are not based on facts, says a statement adopted by the Federal Chamber of the Yugoslav parliament on Friday evening.

The statement adds that the assessments contained in the amendment adopted on Thursday [29 June] run counter to the real situation in Yugoslavia since the measures introduced in the Yugoslav Province of Kosovo were aimed precisely at securing peace, personal safety and equality for all citizens.

Without disputing the right of all countries to engage in discussion on human rights, members of the Yugoslav parliament assessed as unacceptable the current judgements being passed on the alleged violations of human rights in another country on the basis of one-sided views.

It is unacceptable as practice in international relations and is not in keeping with bilateral relations and the verified principles of cooperation between the United States and Yugoslavia, the statement emphasizes.